

BAY AREA REPORTER

VOL. XVII NO. 32 AUGUST 6, 1987

1528 15TH STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

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Third Time No Charm For Raines Bias Suit

Jury Finds No Discrimination by City in Firing; Rights Ordinance Not Challenged, Left on Books

by Ray O'Loughlin

A San Francisco Superior Court jury has decided after two weeks of deliberation that Michael Raines was not the victim of anti-gay discrimination in losing his job in 1980 as director of the city's performing arts complex. In a 9-3 vote on July 31, jurors upheld the firing of Raines by the War Memorial Board of Trustees as not violating the city's gay rights ordinance.

Raines and his attorneys were stunned by the defeat in the third trial of Raines' suit against the city. The first two trials ended in deadlocked juries.

"It's shaken me up pretty badly," said attorney Matt Coles. "It was the fairest trial we've ever had and we had the best presentation possible," he added.

Asked why then did Raines lose, Coles said "because there were nine people on the jury who were not going to believe there was anti-gay discrimination no

matter what we put in front of them."

On the other side, attorneys for the city were delighted at the verdict. "I believe the jury verdict was correct. Michael Raines was not discriminated against on the basis of sexual orientation," said James Carter of Berman and Carter, the private firm that

represented the city in this trial.

Kimberly Reiley, the city attorney's chief deputy trial attorney, who was also involved in the case, commented that "the jury did not say gay people can be discriminated against in hiring. They said that the War Memorial Board did not discriminate."

(Continued on page 2)



Michael Raines.

(Photo: Rink)



Sup. Harry Britt.
(Photo: Steve Savage)

Britt Attacks Porting Plan; Calls Ban on Bias 'Weak'

Sups Vote to Postpone Agreement on Missouri; Molinari Withdraws Amendment; To Try Again

by Tim Taylor

An angry Sup. Harry Britt, his voice trembling with emotion, persuaded Sup. John Molinari into withdrawing a proposed agreement with the Navy to allow the berthing of the USS Missouri in San Francisco Bay. Britt charged that it failed to include adequate protections for lesbians and gay men against discrimination in civilian employment. Britt's strong remarks even persuaded some Missouri proponents to change their vote.

By a vote of 8 to 2, the Board of Supervisors postponed action for two weeks on amendments Molinari offered Monday (Aug. 3) to a memorandum of understanding detailing the contractual obligations of the city and Navy. Britt and Molinari expect to develop a stronger antidiscrimination policy they say will apply to the Navy.

(Continued on page 23)



Today

Up Your Alley: A Statue of Liberty (above) for the 1980's? For more pictures of the walking sights at this year's South of Market alley fair, see page 20 and 38.

Naming Names: Sewing hundreds of quilts honoring people who have died of AIDS is a way of fighting back, reports Tim Taylor, page 16.

Reality Check: No time for Tinker Bell in the White House, says Rep. Pat Schroeder as she conducts her unofficial campaign for the presidency. See page 14.

Thief Takes Van For Ride To Jail

Open Hand Delivery Van Stolen; Retrieved In Sausalito 2 Days Later

by Ray O'Loughlin

Ruth Brinker is an optimist, a hard core optimist. And this past weekend she saw her optimism rewarded. How? The van for Open Hand, a meals delivery service she manages for people with AIDS, was stolen.

Last Thursday evening the van was parked in its usual spot behind Trinity Episcopal Church at Bush and Gough Streets in San Francisco. But Friday morning, when the volunteer driver went to begin his route, it was gone.

Brinker promptly reported the

theft to the SFPD. The city police took the report and put out a bulletin for the 1983 Chevy van to all Bay Area law enforcement agencies. She never expected to see the van again in usable shape.

In the meantime, how do you

(Continued on page 2)



Ruth Brinker.

(Photo: Rink)

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— Peter Travers, PEOPLE

6TH WEEK
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Open Hand

(Continued from page 1)

ORDINANCE INTACT

Although the case was the first major test of San Francisco's nine-year-old gay rights ordinance, Reiley was quick to point out "I don't consider this case a blow of any kind to gay rights. The city ordinance is not changed and remains intact."

Raines had asked for a reported \$850,000 from the city plus unspecified damages for emotional injury.

Raines had been named interim director of the War Memorial Opera House in 1978 but was let go in 1980 when George Matson from San Diego was hired after a national search for a permanent director. Raines was one of three finalists being considered for the job.

In his suit, Raines claimed that Philip Boone, then president of the War Memorial Board of Trustees, led a drive to oust Raines because Boone wanted "a family man" hired. Boone was reported to have said "what this town doesn't need is another homosexual in a position of responsibility."

Attorneys for the city never disputed that Boone did in fact say that to Victor Wong, a former employee of the San Francisco Symphony. Wong testified to that remark under oath.

"As employment discrimination cases go," said Coles, "this is one of the strongest cases I've ever seen in ten years of practice. If it had been a gender case or race case, with that evidence, it would never have gone to trial. You don't get cases nowadays where people say things like that."

NO EVIDENCE

James Carter has also seen many employment discrimination cases. In his opinion, "this was one of the weakest."

"If it had been a different kind of discrimination, it would never have been taken to trial in the first place," said Carter countering Coles' assertion.

"In my closing argument, I tried to give the jury the context of Wong's statement and, even if truthful, it was still no evidence of discrimination," Carter told Bay Area Reporter.

Carter said that Boone and other trustees knew that Raines was gay when he was first hired in 1978. Nonetheless, Boone joined two other trustees on the search committee in recommending that Raines be hired.

"If Boone dominated the board and was homophobic as claimed," asked Carter, "why did he let Raines be hired?"

Furthermore, he said, of the three final candidates under consideration to direct the city's newly expanded Performing Arts Complex—Davies Hall was about to be added to the Opera House and the Veterans Building—the top contender was another gay man. Had the War Memorial Board been able to match the man's salary, San Francisco would have gotten a gay director of the huge arts center, according to Carter.

Matson was the next candidate and ultimately hired. Raines, it was felt, did not have the experience to manage the facility.

"Actions speak louder than words," said Carter. "Boone's words may show bias, but his conduct does not. Which are you going to believe, I asked the jury," said Carter.



Matt Coles was shocked at the Raines decision. (Photo: Rink)

Coles contended that the city's lawyers simply "made an appeal to homophobia."

"They didn't try to explain away events that led to the firing of Raines," said Coles, "they said that Raines had tried to bring gay political power into this courtroom."

He explained the jury's vote by saying, "What jurors did was to make up an explanation to say that there was no sexual orientation discrimination."

Deputy City Attorney Reiley saw it differently. "It was a tough case," she said, "For a jury to deliberate for eight days, shows there were some tough issues they had to ponder."

Coles and co-attorney Mary Dunlap are considering appealing the verdict. They are also thinking about pursuing a fourth trial on Raines' suit. "We are taking a hard look at whether to move for a new trial at this level," said Coles. He could not elaborate on details at this time, he said.

Delaney Calls Panel 'Cynical' Politics

Martin Delaney, co-founder of Project Inform, stepped up the attack on Pres. Ronald Reagan's appointments to the Presidential Commission on AIDS. In a live broadcast of ABC's Nightline program, July 27, Delaney demanded the resignation of gay commission member, Dr. Frank Lilly of New York City.

"There isn't a single AIDS expert on the commission," Delaney asserted. He asked Dr. Lilly and the other medical professionals to resign rather than "participate in this ridiculous sham," he said in one of the strongest complaints yet against the President's appointees.

"Instead of showing new concern for the AIDS crisis, as we had hoped, this commission

shows how truly ill-informed the administration is," he charged. "Putting political appointees with preconceived, reactionary notions about AIDS continues this administration's propensity to put foxes in charge of the chicken house," said Delaney. "Dr. Lilly's appointment is little more than a cynical attempt to pretend that the commission is somehow balanced. Nothing could be further from the truth."

Van Stolen

(Continued from page 1)

deliver two meals a day, seven days a week, to 256 people too ill to fend for themselves? For Brinker, the difficulty conjured up a nightmare of delayed meals for disabled clients, meaning no hot dinners and late lunches for many.

Volunteers filled in Friday and Saturday as word went out over radio and television that Open Hand needed a hand.

Then, early Sunday morning, the break came. Sausalito police had retrieved the van and arrested a man now charged with stealing it. Later that day, Ruth Brinker had her vehicle back and all it cost her was a \$50 towing charge to bring it back to the city.

Sitting in Marin County jail is

Jeffrey Zoller, 29, of San Francisco. Bail was set at \$1,000.

Sausalito police officer Dan Derby made the arrest 6 a.m. Sunday after seeing Zoller tampering with another vehicle. Zoller fled in the Open Hand van. But Derby gave chase and hauled him in. By the time the chase was over, the police computer had sent out the alert that it was a stolen vehicle.

Zoller claims the van had been given to him by a friend.

Fortunately, the van was not in any way damaged, except for 500 miles being added onto the odometer.

And Open Hand is now back in business. "All in all," said Ruth Brinker, "it was a good experience. We got some press out of it and we made contact with people who were not aware of Open Hand."

Pulling Out Stops Pulls Out the Vote Royalty Candidates Pamper Voters

by Allen White

The election of a new Duke and a new Duchess, plus a myriad of community activities brought people out to the streets of gay San Francisco last weekend.

They go by the names of Gaby, Flame and Miss Piggi and they were all vying for the title of Grand Duchess of San Francisco. With them were Grand Duke title seekers Tony, Bruce and Beau. They were all out Saturday getting people to the Market Street polling place.

As the day concluded the number of voters was about 1,000 people, one of the largest turnouts. They have been doing this type of thing in San Francisco for about twenty years and most of the players count it as a second vocation.

Miss Piggi, backed by The Gallean, had mini-vans supplementing limousines to get their backers to the polls. Flame and Tony Roller joined together to marshal a fleet of almost a dozen Lincoln town cars. Gaby also pulled together a mobile task force to roam the city for votes.

The Duke and Duchess get-out-the-vote effort was calculated and effective. The desire to win seems, at times, to almost outweigh the prize that is up for grabs, the chance to be part of San Francisco's gay royalty for a year.

The money escalated this year as Flame and Miss Piggi invested in full-page ads in the gay press and potential voters were deluged with mailings and pampered with food, drink and probably more.

The unofficial experts all appeared unwilling to call the winner. In the Castro and the Church/Market street area, Miss Piggi would appear the winner. Over in the Polk, the efforts of Flame seemed to indicate the former Empress would become a Duchess. Another plausible theory says that Piggi and Flame were splitting the same vote and this gives Gaby, whom many believe got the South of Market vote, to slide through with the largest number of votes.

The race for Grand Duke seems too close for anyone to give any accurate projections.

The winners will be announced at the Coronation next Saturday night at Bimbo's 365 Club. There are still tickets. The event is called In Search of Heirs, possibly the understatement of the year.

The corner of 18th and Castro was the gay soapbox of the world last weekend.

The San Francisco Eagle softball team was out there pushing their Event '87 AIDS fundraiser which will close the street in front of the 12th and Harrison street bar on Aug. 22.

Others on the corner were raising funds for the October March on Washington. The afternoon was filled with the rhythms of the Sistah Boom percussion group, raising money to pay their costs to Washington. Others were passing out literature detailing the events taking place in Washington during the week of the march.

Over on Market Street, the Castro Lions Club was raising money for the Lions Eye Foundation. The prize was a 1969 gold Cadillac sedan which, with 83,000 miles, seemed to have less mileage than some of the people selling the tickets.

The Emperor and Empress of San Francisco took over the parking lot for an auction at Church

Street Station. The accumulation of merchandise that can be found in an Empress' closet was impressive.

Over at Cafe Flore, the focus of the weekend was the Names Project. Names have been creatively inscribed to honor people who have died of AIDS. Many of the works were displayed on the huge billboard that faces Market towards Castro. The names are a part of a national project which will be assembled into one massive expanse of names and displayed across the Capitol Mall on Sunday, Oct. 11 in Washington, D.C.



A royal vote is cast.

(Photo: James Dusch)

March Opens Office With Sunday Party

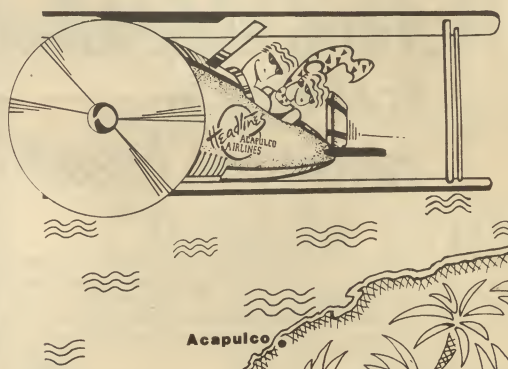
Everyone is invited to join the March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights and the Names Project to celebrate the opening of a new office at 2362 Market Street near Castro. The party will be held from 7 to 10 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 9, and will mark the beginning of the countdown with only 62 days left until the March on Oct. 11.

Entertainment will include music, comedy, guest speakers, and a special viewing of the Names Project banners in our new gallery space.

Excitement is building for the March and for the related events in Washington, including the presentation of the Names Project quilt, in which each square is a tribute to a person who has died of AIDS or ARC. Join us as we celebrate our work so far, and find out how you can become a part of these historic projects.

Admission is \$5-\$25, sliding scale. For more information, call the March at 861-5536 or the Names Project at 863-5511. •

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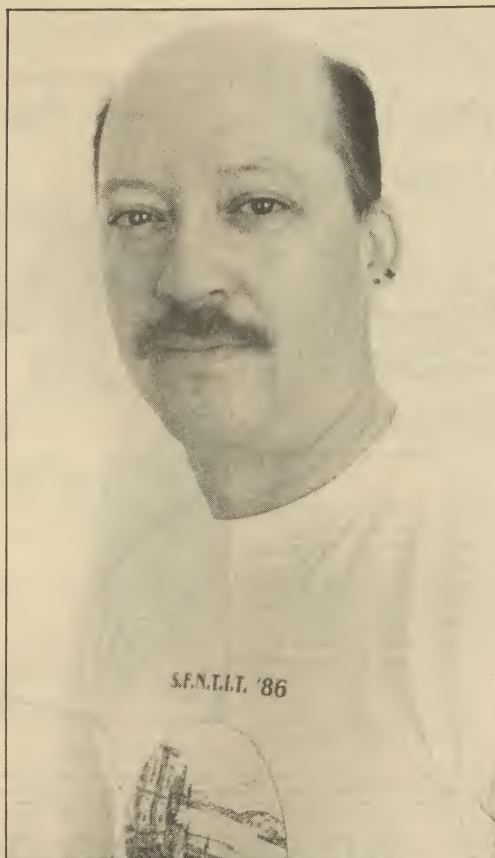
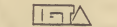
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David Peterson: his friendliness wasn't appreciated.

(Photo: Steve Savage)

Victim Grabs Attacker For Police In Japantown Assault

by Jay Newquist

David Peterson uttered a simple "How's it going?" and as a result he was the victim of a gay bashing incident at a Japantown bowling alley July 15. Peterson, 41, inquired about another bowler's game and for a response was called a "fucking faggot." His assailant then punched Peterson in the face and pulled him to the floor.

A cosmetologist who lives on Nob Hill, the 5'11" Peterson got the upper hand in the tussle, holding his assailant down until other members of the Wednesday Night Community League pulled them apart.

Peterson thought he wasn't hurt and he asked a clerk at the bowling alley to call the police. But to Peterson's irritation the call was cancelled by the Japantown Bowl manager. A later call was made and a policeman arrived some two hours after the assault.

Terry Kaplan, Japantown Bowl manager, explained that the police call was initially cancelled because "everything seemed to be under control once we got to the scene of the incident."

Kaplan said that an emergency code call alerted him and a security guard about the incident. "But by the time we got to the top of the stairs, the two had been separated and everything seemed to be okay."

"When I heard that the police had been called," Kaplan continued, "I didn't see the need for

them, so I cancelled the call. But when I found out that Peterson had requested the police, I called them out."

The policeman took Peterson's statement, but refused to write a citation against the assailant whom Peterson was able to identify as a bowler in another league.

"If the policeman had written a citation at the time, there would have been a court date," Peterson said this week, "so to get the man charged I had to have witnesses go to testify."

Inspector Sergeant Robert J. McAllister was assigned the case and Peterson said he had nothing but praise for the officer. "He was very relaxed and supportive, very professional," Peterson said.

The victim is seeking criminal action against his attacker and has provided all the necessary paperwork. He now awaits a prosecuting attorney to look at the statements of witnesses and decide if the case merits issuing a warrant.

Peterson has suffered an injured foot from the incident and has to stay off it for four to six weeks, which he called a rather radical change of lifestyle for someone who works in hair salons.

He also called Community United Against Violence, which offered to provide him legal advice, but thus far he is proceeding through the litigation without counsel.

Peterson isn't interested in financial remuneration from this violent gay bashing incident. He is seeking to have his assailant banned from participation in American Bowling Congress events.

Being philosophical about the incident, Peterson said, "I won't be scared of this kind of thing. If they allow this guy back in the bowling alley, he knows where to find me."

"How can a gay person put up with this? He just has to say 'no.'"

When and if the legal process grinds away to some conclusion in this case, Peterson wasn't holding out hope that his assailant would ever be punished.

"If his record is clean, he'll get off," said Peterson, who felt he was serving a purpose by jumping through all the legal hoops thrown in his path.

Such gay bashing incidents were unfortunately common in San Francisco, he agreed, and unless the gay and lesbian community challenged each and every example of discrimination, we are lost, he believes.

Your Community Bulletin Board. Bay Area Reporter.

Severity of Violence on the Rise

The rise in severity of assaults against lesbians and gay men reported by CUAV for the first three months of the year continued through April, May and June. The total number of medically related incidents reported to this office during the first six months of 1987 increased by 38 percent (51 for the first six months of this year as compared to 37 for the same period last year).

Assaults severe enough to require surgery or extensive orthopedic care have more than tripled (33 as compared to 10).

Thirteen incidents were gang assaults involving 4-10 assailants. Two incidents involved more than 10 assailants. Overall, assailants outnumbered victims by 192 to 88.

In 29 percent (23 of 80) of the reported incidents the assailants were armed. Their arsenal included knives, chains, revolvers,

a stun gun, an axe, a hammer, pipes and clubs.

This time last year, CUAV logged a 27 percent (7 of 26) rate of severity (medically related incidents severe enough to require surgery or hospitalization). This year the severity factor rose to 62 percent (21 of 34), an increase of 200 percent (21 as compared to 7)

over the second quarter of 1986.

CUAV urges members of the lesbian/gay community and others who share our commitment to end the violence that gets directed at lesbians and gay men to join us in stepping up individual and neighborhood safety awareness and practices:

- Remain alert and aware of your surroundings.

- Carry a whistle and use it if you are in fear of violence or see someone else in trouble. If you hear a whistle, someone needs your help - RESPOND.

- Arrange for a safe ride or walk with friends when leaving bars and parties.

- Report any incident you were involved with or witnessed to CUAV and the police.

Castro Rapist Found Guilty

Eric Gentry Could Get 15 Years

by Gregory Douthwaite

A man was found guilty this week of raping another man in the Castro district. Eric Gentry, 30, was convicted on July 30 of forcibly sodomizing a 25-year-old man near Collingwood Park.

The rape victim, who was not named, had agreed to have sex with Gentry. However, he was betrayed during the sex act, said the prosecutor, deputy district attorney Ken Cady.

"The victim had voluntarily started to perform fellatio when the guy pushed him down, sat on him, and demanded his jewelry," said Cady. "He took the jewelry, and then told the victim to turn over and forcibly sodomized him."

Gentry was convicted of forcible sodomy, robbery, and felony assault. He could face up to 15 years in prison. Sentencing is scheduled for Aug. 19.

"It's a pretty good sign of how

far gays have come in the City," said Cady, who is gay himself. "People are willing to overlook their judgment against gay sex, and see the issue of violence against the victim."

Gentry met his victim outside the Midnight Sun bar at about 5 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 15, 1985. They went to Moby Dick's for a couple of drinks, and after about an hour they decided to go to Collingwood Park and have sex.

They found the park too public, so they went under the steps of the Most Holy Redeemer Church, which is adjacent to the park.

After the incident, the victim ran home and told his lover what



'People are willing . . . to see the issue as violence against the victim.' (Photo: Rink)

had happened. They called the police, reporting the rape and the theft of several thousands of dollars worth of jewelry, including three diamond rings, a necklace and a watch.

Gentry was arrested about a

month later, after the victim spotted him eating at Orphan Andy's diner.

During the three-day trial, the victim's lover and a policeman testified as to how shaken up the victim was after the rape. The

prosecutor said male victims suffer as much psychological trauma from rape as female victims.

Gentry did not take the witness stand, and his attorney, Tony Gurrola, tried unsuccessfully to discredit the victim's testimony.

Gentry was originally arraigned for allegedly raping three different men within a one-month period. However, the trial was delayed when defense attorneys had him sent to a mental institution for evaluation, and the D.A.'s office lost control with two of the victims in the interim.

One of the missing victims was recently relocated through an ad in a gay newspaper, and a preliminary hearing for a second trial has been scheduled for this month. Gentry could face an additional 40 years in prison for that assault, Cady said.

The victim in the second case was a 19-year-old man. Police say he was approached by the rapist at about 10 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 29, 1985, on a sidewalk adjacent to a park in the Western Addition.

The rapist forced the young man into the entrance of the park restroom at knife point and forced him to fellate him, police said. The rapist allegedly held the victim for four hours, sodomizing him three times before robbing him.

KPIX Looks At AIDS In Heterosexuals

KPIX (Ch. 5) will examine "Heterosexuals and AIDS," airing Wednesday, Aug. 12 from 8-9 p.m. and hosted by Eyewitness News anchor Wendy Tokuda and reporter Jim Bunn. The one-hour live studio program, a part of the continuing KPIX AIDS Lifeline project, will include phone-in lines for viewer questions during the show. The show will air without commercial interruption.

The show's format also includes both field reports by Eyewitness News reporter Hank Plante and a live studio audience. Phone lines will be set up to allow viewers to ask questions of the panel directly.

AIDS Self-Care Manual Available

AIDS Project Los Angeles has published the most comprehensive, definitive AIDS informational resource text, *AIDS: A Self-Care Manual*. The 320-page, comprehensive guidebook, which has taken two years to compile and which incorporates valuable information from AIDS Project Los Angeles' previously printed manual, is the organization's authoritative resource for medical, sexual, psychological and practical aspects of AIDS management.

Among those presenting the multi-level reference book which contains the contributions of leading AIDS specialists, is the co-editor and publisher, author Betty Clare Moffatt, whose previous book, *When Someone You Love Has AIDS*, is a chronicle of her son's battle against the catastrophic disease which took his life last year.

For further information, write APLA, 3670 Wilshire Blvd. #300, Los Angeles, CA 90010.

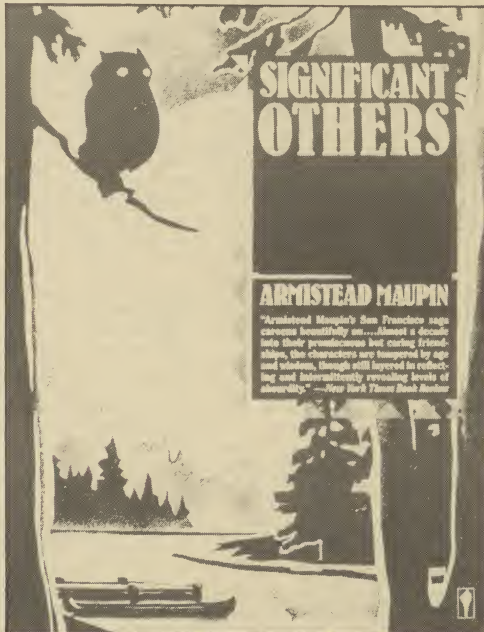
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BAY AREA REPORTER OPEN FORUM

VOL. XVII NO. 32 AUGUST 6, 1987

NEXT ISSUE OUT: AUGUST 13

NEXT DEADLINE: AUGUST 7

B.A.R.

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EDITORIAL & OPINION

Let Them Eat Vaccine

Can you imagine Ronald Reagan playing Marie Antoinette? Well, if you saw any of his press conference announcing the Presidential Commission on the Human Immunodeficiency Virus Epidemic, you might have caught our President lapsing into the role of that poor old queen. Marie Antoinette is most famous, of course, for responding to the French people's demand for bread with "let them eat cake." That remark was for centuries the classic expression of contempt until Bette Davis gave us so many more.

Reagan wasn't done up in historical period drag, of course — what do you wear to your own guillotining? It wouldn't have added anything to the scene anyway. But it was one of his finer performances.

There he was seriously acting as if the thirteen people he was naming to this commission were going to actually address the most pressing health crisis in U.S. history. The White House was finally recognizing, according to the script, the national tragedy and the enormous challenge of AIDS. The same President who couldn't even say AIDS until last year was going to do something about it.

Fat chance. This Presidential commission doesn't even have AIDS in its name. The White House still can't say the word. Furthermore, it is one of the most lightweight commissions imaginable, in terms of expertise. Oh, it's got some heavy hitters on it alright, almost all on the wrong side.

The only good news about this panel is that it will have about only one year to live, much like many of the people it will be forced to deal with.

The biggest name on the commission is the worst news — Cardinal John O'Connor of New York who seems to very seriously think public health policy in America should be subject to moralism. O'Connor not only led the fight to obstruct New York City's gay rights ordinance from passing, he then went to court to block its enforcement when he lost in city council. He has regularly denied justice for gays and lesbians every chance he's gotten. He even tried to have a gay priest deposed.

Few people have been as malicious toward gay people as O'Connor has. He has absolutely no expertise or credibility on AIDS other than heaping contempt on its sufferers. It is an amazing gesture of contempt by Reagan to name any church figure to this panel, but he could have found one with compassion instead of hate.

Other panel members do not much improve the group. The editor of the *Saturday Evening Post*, a retired Navy admiral, a Phyllis Schlafly follower, a corporate head and Republican fundraiser, an insurance executive, and a sexual dysfunction counsellor. A nurse and a few physicians are tossed in so the others can learn some medical terminology for certain sexual acts, no doubt.

Just for our sake — please, don't do me any favors — Reagan increased the size of the original group to include one lone gay man, Dr. Frank Lilly of New York. I don't envy Dr. Lilly. If he decided to resign immediately in order not to lend one shred of credibility to this group's fulminations, I could not blame him.

This is one commission that seems designed to fail. With representatives named by interest groups, such as insurance and the military, instead of by expertise, the net result will likely be only a moralistic diatribe, not a national plan to meet the crisis. The so-called Presidential Commission on AIDS will likely become nothing more than a vehicle for anti-gay rhetoric, AIDS hysteria, and some very retrograde notions about treating a world-wide health crisis of colossal proportion.

It is typical of the Reagan approach to social problems. Sneer at the victims and pick off the vulnerable marginal ones as a symbol of action. That's why we hear about testing for HIV in federal prisons but get no real sex education for teenagers.

Reagan's sham of a commission should be boycotted. Let them dawdle along and put out their gibberish — it will quickly be refuted in public. No respectable scientist, medical professional, health educator or public health officer should have anything to do with this group.

Ray O'Loughlin

OPINION

Taking Our Message to the 'Burbs

by Jerome Moskowitz

In late March I received a phone call from a Fremont junior college student who wanted to direct a one-act play about AIDS for his final student drama project. He felt that people in the South Bay needed exposure to the issue, so he called the folks at Theatre Rhinoceros to see if they knew of any one-acts on the subject. They told him of my play, *Razor Music*, and suggested he contact me. The resulting production of my play at Fremont's Ohlone College last month was an enlightening experience for me which I would like to share.

My initial reactions to this student's request to direct my play ranged from delight to terror. I was delighted for the opportunity to be able to bring the issue of AIDS out of the city and into the suburbs. (Never having visited Fremont, it was in my mind something akin to the Outer Limits.) I was also thrilled to be getting another production of my play.

But I was very much afraid that perhaps these suburban college students wouldn't have the understanding, the experience, to dramatize the story of two urban gay men who deal with AIDS not as a dirty secret, but as a sad reality of our times. And I was most paranoid that the audience of mothers, fathers, and grandparents (for some reason, all clad in polyester in my nightmares) would not be able to get past some of the mild but graphic gay sexual references in the script.

On Saturday, May 30, Howard, Jeff, Tony and I climbed into Bruceanne (Howard's car) for the long trek to Fremont. As is usually the case when I cross the Bay Bridge and head east or south, a vague feeling of uneasiness crept up my spine. "They'll hate my play," I thought. "We'll be fag-bashed." I turned to Howard and told him that if I had to go to the bathroom at the theatre, I wasn't going alone.

My worst fears were confirmed when we arrived at the box office to read this posted sign: "Due to the mature subject matter of some of tonight's material, this performance is rated 'R'. No one under 17 admitted without parent or guardian."

Also, I'd talked with the director by phone about the Thursday night opening, and he'd informed me that the audience was uncomfortable with the blatant talk about masturbation which took place during a key monologue in the play. I looked around me at the rather eclectic crowd of double-dating college kids (for the most part straight) and, sure enough, the anticipated polyester-clad relatives. I prepared for the worst.

Then, right before the performance, a woman walked onto the stage and reiterated the "mature subject matter" warning, offering to refund the money of anyone who found the material offensive. I was glad I hadn't worn white, as I envisioned tomato and egg throwing galore when people discovered the playwright of such obscene material was in their midst.

We sat through two other student-directed plays and a performance by the college improv troupe. My play was last on the bill (to further increase my building gastric disturbances). And then we were suddenly into it, and didn't I have egg on my face after all? Because I'd give these people absolutely no credit whatsoever.

They were attentive during the quiet moments; they laughed at the funny moments (although they didn't catch quite a bit of the gay humor); they applauded heartily at the ending. In short, they did the reverse of everything that I, with my San Francisco holier-than-thou attitude, had expected of them. And I realized that a play about AIDS, developed in a gay writers workshop and intended primarily for a gay audience, is something that people in Fremont not only need to see, but is perhaps something they want to see. The intimate power of live performance seems to be a perfect vehicle to take our message to the suburbs of America — that this is not just a gay tragedy, but a human one.

A few days later I received a letter from one of the students who acted in my play. I would like to quote briefly from it. "Thank you for the chance to do your play. I have changed the way I look at the AIDS situation and I know it is because of your work. I feel if I have had new light shed on this subject then others must've also. Even if it was just one person, that is enough."

I would like to thank Mattison Gore, the student who directed this production of *Razor Music*, for his commitment in bringing this subject material to the people of Fremont, and for his considerable skill and sensitivity with the material. To my surprise I learned that the Ohlone College's Drama Department is considering *The Normal Heart* and *Last Summer at Bluefish Cove* this fall.

No Internal Warfare

★ I have been a member of the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club for about 12 years. During that time I have attended many endorsement meetings but none remotely like that of last Monday night at which the Club's endorsement in the S.F. Mayor's race was scheduled for a vote.

It is not my purpose to attack or to defend the tactics of the supporters of any one candidate. I was appalled, however, by the disrespectful, raucous, jumping up and down kind of behavior by many of the people at the meeting (perhaps not all of them members of the club, but guests), which would have been more appropriate at a high school football game than at a political meeting, and which seemed to raise the question whether people join an organization in order to advance and support its long-range effectiveness in carrying out the objectives for which it was founded, or rather in order to pursue their own temporary goals for the perceived advantage of any particular campaign of the moment.

The extreme partisanship and embittered divisiveness were particularly distressing in a week in which we mourn the loss of people like Tom Waddell and Gerry Parker.

Finally, lest anyone read any "sour grapes" attitude into these remarks, I want to emphasize that they are made irrespective of any position for any particular candidate. They are made in the perhaps naive hope that in the future the purposes of the Club and the needs of the community it is meant to serve are given mindful consideration.

The urgency of the real battles we are forced to fight does not permit us to indulge in warfare among ourselves.

Walter R. Ems
San Francisco

Collective Self-Image

★ Jews protest the Pope because he met with an ex-Nazi. Gays protest because he called us evil. Even "good Catholics" are disappointed with his limitations on birth control. But, maybe we're forgetting JP II is simply a man. Contrary to the doctrine of papal infallibility, he does make mistakes. His church makes mistakes; big, historical ones. To say that our status as human beings is diminished because a religious institution in Rome has berated us is to admit that our self-image is dependent on universal acceptance. I thought we'd come further than that by now.

Greeting the Pope with raving harlequin nuns rather than mass peaceful protest (which we and Ghandi and King have proven successful on many occasions) would only initiate further negativity, reinforce one of our more undesirable traits (vindictive bitchiness), and undermine any real communication or positive change.

I do not agree with his philosophies. They are far from those of Jesus. But, again, JP II is just a man. By calling him names we are saying that his name-calling hurts us. What ever happened to "sticks and stones . . ." Does anyone really think that the opinions of the Catholic hierarchy are going to sway public sympathies so dramatically? We are saying that we need the Pope's approval. We do not. For I'm certain we have Jesus', when we act with love, instead of hatred.

It is especially important in these times to direct our energies in positive, forgiving, healing ways. I can't help but think that all the venom expended on Pope-hating only weakens our cause in the long run.

We don't have to greet him with open arms, but neither do we need to greet him with animosity. Regardless of anyone else's opinion of us, I would think our collective self-image would be high enough to sustain a visit by an unwelcome guest without becoming ugly and vengeful in the process.

T. M. Smith
San Francisco

HRC's Response

★ In response to Donald Jackson's letter in B.A.R.'s July 23 edition, I would like to set the record straight on the Human Rights Commission's strong commitment and response to handling discrimination complaints based on sexual orientation and AIDS/ARC.

In fiscal year 1985-86, 137 complaints of sexual orientation and/or AIDS/ARC were investigated by the Lesbian/Gay and AIDS Unit of the HRC. That was an increase of 20 percent over the previous year. During the first three quarters of FY 86-87, we have already handled 112 complaints. We handle at least that much in technical assistance as well.

In addition to individual complaints, the HRC consistently takes strong stands and significantly aids in the promulgation of laws such as domestic partnership legislation, AIDS discrimination and civic rights legislation, AB1, and currently the non-discrimination amendment to the memorandum of

understanding with the Department of the Navy regarding the homeporting of the USS Missouri.

We can only do what the law allows us to do. In the case of groups renting space, Section 12C of the Administrative Code only covers leases of over 29 days; anything under that and the group is not considered a tenant or contractor under the anti-discrimination laws. In the case of a civil service employee, they must file a discrimination complaint with the Civil Service Commission's equal employment unit under Civil Service Commission Rule 1.03(F). Under Article 33 ("Gay Rights Ordinance") and Article 38 (AIDS/ARC Ordinance) of the Municipal Code, we can only investigate and mediate complaints, yet we get tremendous results considering the fact that we have limited enforcement powers.

The staff, the commissioners, and the members of the Lesbian/Gay Advisory Committee of the San Francisco Human Rights Commission stand with the lesbian/gay community and people with AIDS/ARC in fighting discrimination.

Jackie Winnow
Lesbian/Gay and AIDS Unit
S.F. Human Rights Commission

Team San Francisco

★ Even though Gay Games III in Vancouver is still three years away, already many cities around the world are organizing their athletes to attend. And for the first time in the history of the Gay Games, San Francisco athletes will have to organize to go to another city. We think that now is the time to get started so that we have a spectacular presence in Vancouver in 1990.

All lesbian and gay athletes, their supporters, and anyone else interested in Gay Games III are invited to attend an initial exploratory meeting for the formation of TEAM SAN FRANCISCO. The meeting will be held at Amelia's, 647 Valencia Street, on Saturday, Aug. 22, 1987 from 10 a.m. until 12 noon.

TEAM SAN FRANCISCO will take shape according to the ideas and decisions of those people who are interested in organizing it. At the exploratory meeting we hope to discuss such topics as what the specific purposes of TEAM SAN FRANCISCO would be and how it should be organized. We hope that out of the meeting an interim steering committee will be selected that will make specific proposals on these or other issues at a second meeting.

We want to repeat that any interested lesbian or gay athlete is invited to attend, and that we want the maximum unified participation of everyone interested in going to Gay Games III. The only preconceptions we have are that women and men will work together in the effort and that all decisions affecting the group be arrived at in an open and fair method for the good of the whole organization.

For further information on the meeting or TEAM SAN FRANCISCO, call Hal Herkenhoff at 824-5199 or Shawn Kelly at 552-4452. Please come on Aug. 22 and help us get the ball rolling for our participation in Gay Games III!

Hal Herkenhoff
Sports Director, Gay Games II
Shawn P. Kelly
Executive Director, Gay Games II

Naughty B.A.R.!

★ I am very tired of the B.A.R.'s uneven-handed treatment of political contests in the Bay Area. Four months ago, it was the virtuous Britt against the villainous Pelosi. Now the names have been changed to Molinari and Agnos; the one raised on a pedestal, the other vilified to Hell.

Perhaps Art Agnos does not go to leather bars. Perhaps he is too busy helping to "raise" the tens of millions of dollars in Sacramento which are devoted to AIDS matters. Perhaps he is too busy fighting anti-gay discrimination at that same venue through the power of the legislature.

I fear that Molinari will win, but maybe that is only the misguided surmise I reach from reading your paper. I fear it, because in John Molinari I see a repeat of the political wisdom of Mayor Feinstein. That woman, once upon a time, shamelessly courted us and then shamefully abandoned us when it was time for real action. I believe a Molinari betrayal is in the cards. To me, he does not prove the steadfastness of his support for gay causes by "popping in" on a gay fundraiser.

John Springer
San Francisco

Our Olympian

★ Although Dr. Tom Waddell is no longer with our community in body, his spirit lives on in the Gay Games which he founded. And, although he was cruelly denied use of the word Olympics, he was, and always will be, our Olympian.

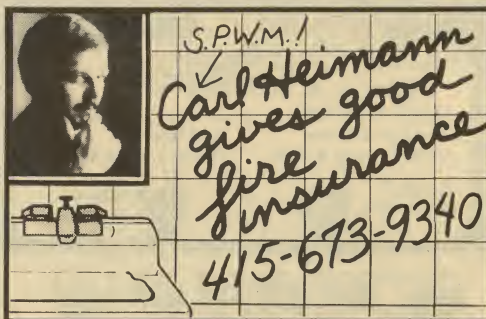
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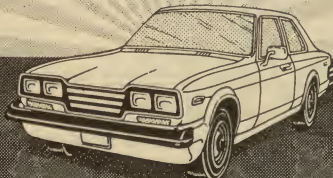
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LETTERS**Inappropriate Fundraiser**★ *This letter was sent to Mayor Dianne Feinstein:*

Dear Mayor Feinstein:

I am really disappointed in you for opening your home to a fundraiser for Pope John Paul II's September visit to San Francisco. In light of his recent moralistic preachments, I feel that your gesture was an affront to the more than 100,000 gays and lesbians residing in the City. Let me explain.

Surely you know that the Pope issued a letter disseminated worldwide that labeled homosexuality as "an objective disorder... an intrinsic moral evil" that is never a morally acceptable part of human life. The letter further stated that "when civil legislation is introduced to protect behavior to which no one has any conceivable right (emphasis mine), neither the church nor society at large should be surprised when irrational and violent reactions increase." Predictably, they have. And just incidentally, San Francisco lawmakers have passed such civil legislation to protect those very persons whom the Pope is bashing in his letter.

I feel that your fundraiser for the Pope was inappropriate and should not have taken place. It certainly betrays your understanding attitude toward the gay community and is inconsistent with citizens' efforts to suppress bigotry. We wish to preserve San Francisco's spirit of tolerance, even if the Pope chooses to be divisive. I regret that you raised money in your home to bring him here.

Jerry Walker
San Francisco**No Tour Buses**★ *This letter was sent to Sup. Harry Britt, City Hall, San Francisco:*

Dear Harry:

So who regulates the tour buses, anyway?

At 10:30 a.m. I was saying goodbye to my girlfriend, on 18th Street near Collingwood. It wasn't a long goodbye. We were not passionately embracing as though she were leaving for another country for an indefinite period of time. It was simple. Do you get the picture?

Then imagine four tour buses (count them, four—no exaggeration) rolled by in the less than five minutes we were standing there. Note the yellow haired driver of one of the buses gawking in horror as I put my arms around my girlfriend's shoulders. (So, what do they expect?) Who's invading whose privacy?

Let's make the Castro an area where vehicles of so many pounds—say about the weight of a tour bus—are prohibited (excluding Muni). If the tourists want to see us, let them come up and be among us without the safety cocoon of those loud, air-polluting monstrosity buses. Let them interact with us in ways that go beyond the limited imagination of the leisure-suited, Ken-Dollan tour announcers with the Radio Shack microphones. Let them spend their money here as opposed to getting the couch potato "hands off" movie-like version of us from atop their perch.

Let's make it a campaign issue!

Diane Christensen
San Francisco**The Time Has Come**

★ How wonderful to see Eric Rofes' Opinion in the B.A.R. (July 23) on the June 1 civil disobedience action in Washington, D.C., where 64 prominent lesbian and gay leaders were arrested in protest over the AIDS crisis.

B.A.R. readers can also have the opportunity to participate in nonviolent civil disobedience in D.C. The National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights is planning a C.D. action on the steps of the Supreme Court in response to the intolerable Hardwick's sodomy decision. San Franciscans will gather with thousands from around the country on Oct. 13 to participate in this momentous occasion.

We have tried cocktail parties, letter writing, lobbying and picketing. All those tactics must continue. And yet, we now know that we need to go a step further. Direct action is crucial to our Movement. Direct action does make a difference; it does make people listen. The March on Washington will be a significant event in lesbian/gay history and the C.D. component is a major step forward for the lesbian/gay movement.

The time has clearly come. From John Lorenzini and the ARCAIDS Vigil to Citizens for Medical Justice's sit-in at the Governor's office, to the June 1 action, to the National March on Washington, C.D. has become established as an important tactic in the lesbian and gay movement for liberation, just as it has in previous movements.

C.D. has the potential to accomplish what all our efforts heretofore have not. C.D. is a personal commitment, a decision to meet injustice head on with

a direct and powerful message to the people of this country. It is empowering for the individual and for our Movement. Remember Rosa Parks. Just one, tired, essentially unknown woman who needed to sit down on the bus after a hard day at work. Rosa Parks moved this country.

For more information on civil disobedience, please call Eileen Hanson at 621-5620.

Eileen Hanson, for
San Francisco/East Bay
March on Washington Committee
San Francisco**The Outcasts**

★ In your July 2 issue you published an article on women at the parade, and it was delightful to see that our group, the Outcasts, was mentioned. However, the article wasn't entirely accurate about who we are, and we would like to correct that as follows:

The Outcasts is an educational, support, and social group for women interested in S/M between women including lesbian, bisexual and transsexual women.

Thank you.

Victoria Baker
Corresponding Secretary
Outcasts, San Francisco**Honoring Tom Waddell**

★ The Tom Waddell Olympics. Let this be adopted as a lasting tribute to a man whose efforts in life will have a lasting effect on us all.

And after all, the IOC should be satisfied as long as the "G" word isn't in the name.

And if not, at the very least the Tom Waddell Gaymes. We are all lucky he was here in this place and time.

David Reid
Los Angeles**Don't Mess With Kids**

★ In a recent B.A.R. (7/30), Hubert Kennedy's letter says he's frightened. After all, how dare gay people suggest that other gay people's tastes might be out-of-line?

I received a lot of response personally from my July 24 letter in which I suggested that many people including (YES!) gay people feel no sense of community with organizations specializing in sexual relations with partners of questionable consenting capacity, as does North American Man/Boy Love Association (NAMBLA).

While far from the most hysterical response I received, (and almost all were very positive), Mr. Kennedy still tries to rationalize the pursuit of dangerous pleasure as "concern for the rights of children." He implies that an anti-NAMBLA stance insinuates low regard for the "value of boys," but quite the contrary. Having been one, and having had many boys as friends and family I feel that boyhood is far too precious and formative a period to allow adults to "horn in," so to speak. Can't we respect innocence? Let boys find other boys to play with.

I certainly refuse to accept the standardization of behavior which is based upon the sexual dependence of children (of any sex) upon adults, who are obviously going to dominate in such a situation. Even children who are very bright are vulnerable to improper encouragement.

Nowhere did anyone suggest anyone else's annihilation, and to render a comparison with concentration camp controls is bordering on defensive hysteria. Most of my racial group (Gypsy) was eliminated (90-plus percent) by Nazism, I feel I'm aware of the dangers of Fascism. Civilization must have rules and they must be based on fairness, facts and common sense. Children's rights must indeed be protected, including the right to not be "adulterated." Seductive children deserve as much protection and need even more care. Certainly even the castrati of the not-too-distant past must have been willing participants under the "helpful and loving" coercion of their mentors.

Whereas most of society is perfectly willing to tolerate homosexuality between consenting adults, the vast majority find pederasty abhorrent, certainly not a source of community pride. Consequently, there is no national pederast organization to tag onto. There are certainly far more heterosexual child-sex obsessives and they are certainly no less rejected by a responsible society.

NAMBLA might argue over an "age of consent," but even that must have a realistic limit. My own concern is not for sophisticated sexually active young adults. Just don't mess with the kids!

Steven F. Stevens
San Francisco

Davies Is OK

★ This letter was sent to the San Francisco Chronicle:

I wish to refute the opinions of Local 250 Union of Hospital and Institutional Workers trustee Phil Giarrizzo in a recent article about the lack of a special AIDS ward at Davies Medical Center.

Mr. Giarrizzo would do well to leave union politics out of AIDS care. I am a PWA. I participate in three hospital programs allowing me to come into contact with approximately 20 PWA's every week. The majority of these PWA are in the hospital. I have yet to hear anything but compliments and gratitude from patients I have visited at Davies Medical Center. They know they are being cared for by professionals who have compassion for their disease, not by union members guaranteed certain benefits in exchange for performing the duties of their chosen profession.

Davies Medical Center has a staff especially sensitive to the needs of AIDS patients. I know. I was there. Without exception, the staff was compassionate, knowledgeable and loving when dealing with me and my disease. I challenge Mr. Giarrizzo to show me another private hospital in the city with a same-day infusion unit as comfortable as the one at Davies. Can he find me another same-day care unit in a private hospital with an infusion unit offering the choice of a bed or an easy-chair? Can he find me another same-day infusion unit with morning pastries, daily movies and the camaraderie of 10 to 12 other patients?

There is an active volunteer program especially for the AIDS patients which the hospital supports. There are weekly support groups for the AIDS patients and, as your article noted, there was a recent seminar on AIDS and nutrition that was attended by over 100 PWAs.

Mr. Giarrizzo appears to be protecting his own interests. Please leave the efforts and dedication of a perfectly competent staff out of the drive for a new contract. No wonder unions seem to be less and less relevant.

Scott Humphries
San Francisco

Take The Money And Run

★ It seems a shame that at a time when gay people should be more committed to community, there seems to be an almost nonchalant attitude toward the erosion of the City's gay lifestyle. I refer in point to the loss of yet another gay establishment to the dictates of the "straight" community.

I refer to the location at 2140 Market St., now a straight-oriented nightclub. In the past, straight takeovers have been totally viewed as a process by which straight people push out gay people, e.g. FeBe's. Not so with 2140. Here we have a case where gay turns against gay; for you see, the establishment is still gay-owned and operated. That in itself is something to consider. But the total ignominious slap in the face is the fact that those who operate and flaunt the S.F. Eagle as the essence of a healthy gay lifestyle are at work undermining the gathering places that gay people have wholeheartedly supported in the past. Remember Alfie's? It makes one wonder if the aficionados of the community have decided on a course of action that makes money from gay people in one location and uses that money to support those bent on our elimination.

Is it too much to expect that those business people who have been supported financially by the community over the years give back, culturally, something to the community? Or have we reduced ourselves to the attitude of "Take the money and run"? We're losing ground, and it shows.

Bruce Lawrence
San Francisco

Faulty Research

★ Mark Chester (Gay Comix! A Little Too White Bread, etc.) seems to have two criteria for judging comics: Are they funny? And, are they politically correct?

Let's start with the first. Comics do not have to be funny, as Chester would soon find out if he were to read the early classics such as Prince Valiant or Flash Gordon. Bruce Billings' story in Gay Comix #10, which Chester criticizes as "not as funny as his Castro cartoons" is incredibly moving, and affected me deeply, as it has probably affected many people who have loved a pet. Perhaps Chester didn't see the emotion in the story because it wasn't particularly "gay." Gay people and straights love animals. Reading his review, I get the feeling that Chester was too busy looking for gay political statements to see that the story was simply a human's declaration of love for his/her animal companion.

This brings us to his second criteria: politics. Chester obviously feels that Gay Comix does not make a strong enough political statement, and he has the right to feel this. However, when he compares the

book unfavorably with what he calls the "politically radical... and revolutionary underground comics of the 1970s by... R. Crumb," I get mad! Has Chester actually read those Crumb comic of which he writes, or has he merely read about them? Whereas Dennis Kitchen, whom he also mentions, was at least unoffensively funny (although never radically political, if political at all), the comix of Crumb in the 1960s and 1970s were offensively sexist and racist.

The same man who worries that lesbians might possibly be offended by Donelan's representation of women because he is a man, holds up as a role model comix by Crumb in which women were at the least molested and at the worst raped and sometimes killed, and the whole thing was represented as screamingly funny! The same man who criticizes Jerry Mills' representation of the black queen, Andre, as stereotypical, has forgotten, or perhaps never saw Crumb's rendition of Angelfood McSpade, a degradation of black people and women, and all of Crumb's other rendition of blacks, drawn in the degrading "blacks as monkeys" thankfully long-gone style of the thirties.

I think Mark Chester should take a course in the history of comics before he attempts another review of them.

Trina Robbins
San Francisco

400,000 Apologies

★ This letter was sent to the San Francisco Examiner:

Considering the reigning pope's penchant for insensitivities—moral, by his condemnation of homosexuals, and political, by his accommodation of Kurt Waldheim—it is no surprise that tickets to September's papal masses are less in demand than anticipated by church authorities. (21 Jul 87, p 1)

The aforementioned unconscionable acts were potentially, if not actually, offensive to an aggregate population greater than that of Catholics enumerated by the San Francisco Archdiocese, and between one-third and one-quarter the combined populace of the three counties comprising that See.

From authoritative sources, and applying the credible estimate that gays are 10-15 percent of the population, (hence, I factored at 12.5 percent), the applicable stats for San Francisco, San Mateo and Marin Counties (the Archdiocese of San Francisco), are: Total census, 1,582,600; Catholics, 381,000; Jews, 220,000; and Gays, 197,825 (religious faith indeterminate).

In the spirit of ecumenical reconciliation, Pope John Paul II should apologize to at least 417,825 Bay Area residents, notwithstanding that to do so might, by admitting to error, contravene the doctrine of papal infallibility.

Thomas M Edwards
San Francisco

Hypothetical Situation

★ This is in response to a letter by someone named Scott Stedman, regarding a previous letter of mine.

I really don't understand what he is trying to state. He says I "bragged" about surviving six motorcycle accidents. (Instead, should I feel ashamed for being alive?)

My original letter was ten paragraphs long, and I didn't even mention the accidents until my very last sentence. Doesn't sound much like a braggart to me. Then he goes on to judge me as having a bad driving record by incorrectly assuming I was at fault in every instance.

Obviously, Scott Stedman is not even a motorcycle rider. When I am sitting at a red light and get hit by a Muni bus, I am an innocent victim.

Let's take a like situation for Mr. Stedman. Say he's walking down the sidewalk, (we'll pretend he's minding his own business) when he's attacked by a small group of fag-bashers.

He becomes the innocent victim and is knocked to the sidewalk hitting his head on the curb. Since he wasn't wearing his helmet, he suffers head injuries. Then, although the blood is filling his ears, he still manages to hear one witness whisper, "The idiot got what he deserved. After all, he was wearing skin-tight white pants."

I mean, after all Scott, with your attitude and actions, "how else could such a person be described?"

David Pittman
San Francisco

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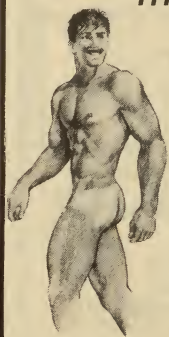
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Wayne Friday

Showdown At City Hall

If events of the past week are any indication, the race for mayor of San Francisco promises to be a beaut—heated and a bit dirty, but a beauty. Lagging badly in the polls, City Attorney Louise Renne and her campaign manager—mostly her campaign manager—realized that they had to do something and do it soon.

With only three months until election day, Renne, if she is ever to become mayor, realized that she had better do something about getting into the December run-off. What to do? Well, go after the second place positioning, of course. And with polls clearly showing Art Agnos in second place, Renne strategist Clint Reilly decided to take off the gloves.

While Assemblyman Agnos' campaign people are claiming publicly they are "pleased" with the way their candidate handled last week's bruhaha with Renne, more than a few City Hall observers are saying that Reilly put out the bait and Agnos went for it. It would seem that Agnos' staff might have sat on their candidate until he cooled down, but no. Agnos went storming over to Renne's office, fuming over her earlier press conference, particularly annoyed at her comment that "politicians shouldn't line their pockets with dirty money. That's why Art Agnos should return his."

While Agnos might have showed some political spunk at responding to Renne head-on, he seemingly fell for the Reilly plot, and a story that might have made page eight or nine of the dailies, suddenly became front-page news in both the Chron and the Examiner, complete with the detailed news, once again, about Agnos' controversial land development deals. Exactly what Reilly and Company were hoping for.

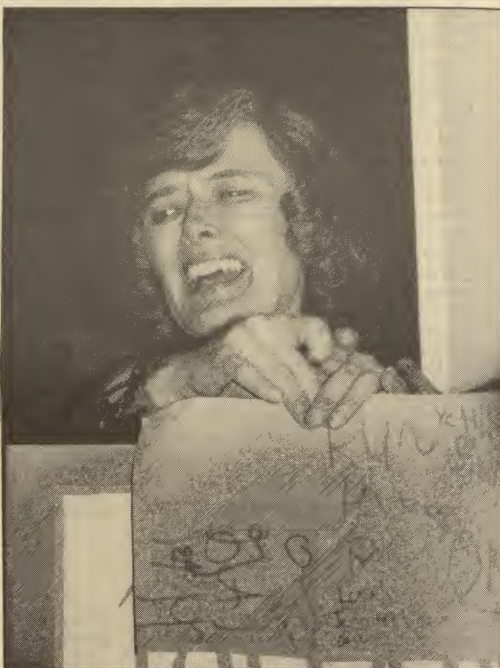
When Art Agnos should be trying to put his highly-publicized financial matters behind him, they are again front page news and, for her part, Renne said this week that "they (Agnos' financial dealings) are properly an issue and I intend to make them an issue" throughout the campaign.

Clint Reilly and Louise Renne both know that in order to get into the December run-off against front-runner John Molinari, they have to knock off Agnos first. Though she claims that she is not "just one of the boys," Renne showed last week that she can get down with the rest of them.

★ ★ ★

Gov. George Deukmejian signed a bill giving state legislators a 10 percent pay increase, from \$37,105 to \$40,816 annually effective next year. Assemblymembers and state senators also receive \$87 a day while in session (the Legislature is normally in session at least 200 days a year) and are entitled to state-leased autos and gasoline credit cards, and are enrolled in a generous pension plan.

In Connecticut, gays will be able to report harassment and violence when a state gay rights coalition sets up a hot line this fall. A gay rights bill failed in the spring Legislature because no one kept harassment statistics, officials say.



Pat Schroeder made friends, but no \$\$\$ (Photo: Scott Martin)

The U.S. Senate campaign of California Secretary of State March Fong Eu sputtered to a near-standstill this week when Eu conceded that she cannot comply with disclosure requirements of federal campaign laws because her millionaire husband refused to tell even her the secrets of his wealth. Eu's husband, a citizen of Singapore, is so secretive about his money that he refuses to tell his wife how he earns it. Federal campaign rules require candidates to disclose financial interests of themselves and their spouses. Eu who has had trouble raising campaign funds, has put her Senate campaign "on hold" and has been traveling the state instead on behalf of her Dimes Against Crimes campaign, a plan that would raise \$150 million a year through increased liquor taxes to finance more police.

Rep. Pat Schroeder of Colorado was in town this past weekend making a lot of friends, but raising little money, says that she will need to garner \$2 million nationwide by September if she is to make a run for the Demo presidential nomination.

How's that? Alessandro Baccari, the John Barbagelata-backed candidate for mayor, recently donated \$250 to the John Molinari for Mayor campaign.

Custody lawyers across the country are closely watching the court battle in Palm Springs where 16-year-old Brian Batey was placed in the temporary custody of his late father's lover after a five-year battle between his father and his fundamentalist Christian mother. A hearing on permanent custody is scheduled in San Diego on Oct. 2.

The nation's governors, concluding their national conference last week in Michigan, unanimously adopted a broad AIDS policy that calls for increased federal spending for education and research and more federal health care assistance and AIDS education in public schools.

Anyone who still believed that New York Gov. Mario Cuomo isn't running for president has got to be pretty naive. Cuomo, after stealing the show at the governor's conference last week, went directly to a Democratic fundraising dinner in Indianapolis where he sounded very much like a candidate.

Lou Giraudo, the attorney who sits on the executive board of the Agnos campaign, is reportedly having big trouble raising the "necessary" \$3.2 million needed to entertain the pope during his 22-hour visit (he's raised only half that amount). Incidentally, isn't this the same Lou Giraudo who once lobbied Archbishop Quinn to pressure Mayor Dianne Feinstein to veto the domestic partners legislation?

Of the USA's 7,461 state legislators, 1,157 or 15.5 percent are women. California ranks 31st in the nation with 16 women members out of 120 legislators.

District election of supervisors is given only a 50-50 chance of passing on the November ballot and I know of half a dozen or so candidates in a couple of the proposed districts ready to announce.

Boycott Cmte. To Picket Coors Classic

The Coors Boycott Committee is sponsoring an informational picket line at the Coors Bicycle Classic race on Sunday, Aug. 9 from 12 noon to 2 p.m. at the Main Gate of the Presidio, Lombard at Lyon Streets, San Francisco. The demonstration is to protest support by Coors family members of right-wing groups such as the Heritage Foundation and the Free Congress Foundation. Another picket line will be held on Monday, Aug. 10 from 11 a.m. to 12 noon at Fisherman's Wharf near Pier 45.

Mike Hippler

Gayola With A Capital G

If Pee Wee Herman isn't the gayest thing on television, then I'm Betty Boop. And, believe me, I have been accused of many things in my life, but impersonating Betty Boop isn't one of them.

I first ran across Pee Wee's Saturday morning show when I visited my friends, Bob and Lionel, in San Diego several months ago. I had seen him before on late-night TV and in his first feature film. But according to Bob and Lionel, it isn't the same. "This you gotta see," they said, delaying their scheduled outing to an orchid festival.

When I suggested videotaping the show and watching it later, they looked at me aghast, as if I had committed some kind of sacrilege. "Oh no, you've got to see it when the kiddies do," they explained. "That's part of the ritual."

Fortunately, I had already read a number of articles about the show. I knew, for instance, that Pee Wee was the only live human being on Saturday morning TV (the rest being cartoon characters such as Smurfs, Gohots, and Muppet Babies) and that when Pee Wee signed his contract, the network forbade him to do certain things, like sticking pencils in potatoes (which he promptly did).

But no amount of prior knowledge could have prepared me for what I saw that Saturday morning. To Bob and Lionel, he was simply funny, but to me he was radical, a true revolutionary. The reason? Primarily, I decided, his gay sensibility.

This sensibility manifests itself in many ways. First and foremost, of course, is Pee Wee's camp sense of humor. For Pee Wee, camp is more than just the pancake make-up, the 1950s drag, the broad gestures, and the affected mannerisms — it's his extraordinarily exaggerated attitude about everything. The man is hopelessly outrageous. Who else would feature a homophobic puppet who is a dead ringer for Howdy Doody, a claymation dinosaur who wears an apron, and a singing, dancing flowerbed and expect his audience to understand? And who else but homosexuals and children would understand?

Then there is his design sense. According to the literature, Pee Wee has been collecting bizarre odds and ends for years, and it is he who is entirely responsible for the look of the show. Deco queens and computer nerds must go nuts

over it, although I must admit that I find the whole thing a little busy. The set is unbelievably kinetic, the pace frenetic.

I can't make it through the entire half-hour without developing a headache of major proportions. Fortunately, it's usually worth it.

Pee Wee also manages to throw in plenty of sexual innuendos despite the time slot — a skill which is especially admired in the gay counterculture. "I see London, I see France," Pee Wee chanted when he caught a glimpse of co-star's underpants on a recent show, and I was amazed.

At least he hasn't resorted (yet) to the kind of jokes he does at night. Once he gave Jamby the Genie (who is ten times gayer than Pee Wee, despite what I said earlier) a new pair of hands, and Jamby replied with a leer, "Thanks Pee Wee. There's something I've been meaning to do with these for a long time."

'The man (Pee Wee Herman) is hopeless homosexual. Who else would feature a homophobic puppet who is a dear ringer for Howdy Doody, a claymation dinosaur who wears an apron, and a singing, dancing flowerbed and expect his audience to understand?'

Finally, there are the satirical gay stereotypes. Pee Wee's cast of supporting characters include a macho uniform queen, a beehived prom queen with "the hugest hair in the world," a snoopy, overweight fag hag, a cute dyke who plays a trumpet and drives a taxi, a cowboy, the aforementioned Jamby (who my friends call The Blue Miss Thing), and my own personal favorite, the lifeguard/muscleman who seldom wears clothes — or none to speak of.

Through characters like these, and by his own zany behavior, Pee Wee tells America's kids that it's okay to be different, even a little weird. He gives them an alternative to the kind of crap they are used to mimicking on TV. Until Pee Wee came along, I had to pretend to enjoy Transformers whenever I visited my nephews. Now, instead, we sit in front of the set and chant together, "Mecca Lecca Hi, Mecca Heiny Ho."

Of course, my nephews don't realize that Pee Wee is gayola

with a capital G — and I doubt Pee Wee himself recognizes it, although Paul Rubens, the actor behind the mask, might have a clue. What they must sense, however, is that Pee Wee is breaking the rules in some fairly significant way.

When they shatter the silence of a Saturday morning by screaming every time Pee Wee says the secret word, they know they are getting away with murder. Yet Pee Wee encourages this petty anarchism, this little bit of personal freedom. It's a small step, perhaps, but an important one in the right direction — the twisted path to self-liberation.

ACLU Publishes Docket On AIDS, Sexuality Cases

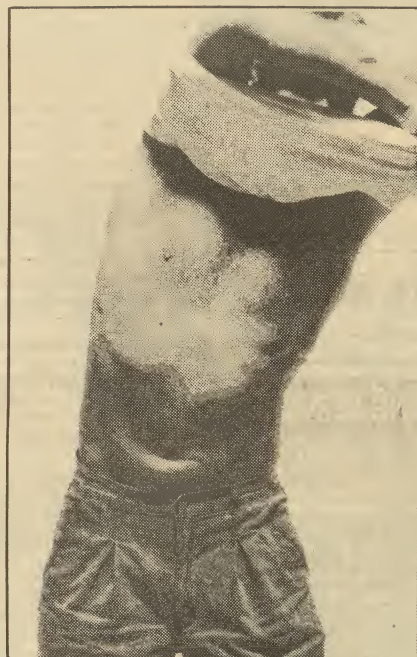
The Lesbian & Gay Rights Project of the American Civil Liberties Union has just published the first national, annotated list of pending cases involving AIDS, sexual orientation, or consensual sexual activity.

The publication, titled the *National Docket of AIDS and Sexuality and the Law Cases*, is the first ever compiled in this subject area. "I think it will be an extremely useful and important tool for lawyers handling such cases and for interested persons trying to keep up-to-date on the rapid developments in this volatile legal arena," said Nan D. Hunter, director of the national ACLU's Lesbian & Gay Rights Project.

The 133-page document lists more than 120 cases. Each case summary includes a detailed description of the issues presented in the case, its status in court,

and lists the name, address, and telephone number of the attorney handling the case. The summary also includes citations for published opinions and the court file numbers. The *Docket* also lists sample pleadings which are available from the ACLU Lesbian & Gay Rights Project.

"The compilation was an enormous job that's taken about a year to complete," said Hunter.



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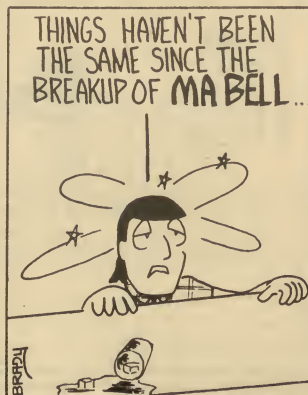
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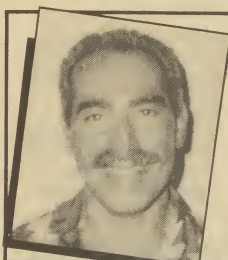
WASHINGTON—This city's gay and lesbian community is up in arms over the obituary policies of the Washington Post, normally one of the venerated liberal newspapers in the nation.

The Post recently refused to

run the name of a surviving lover in an obit. Obit editor J.Y. Smith said the paper "accounts for all marriages and (is) prepared to list as survivors of the first degree (but) we have no objective basis by which to judge friends and lovers."

Gay leaders said a meeting was planned with the Post to review the matter.

—The Washington Blade



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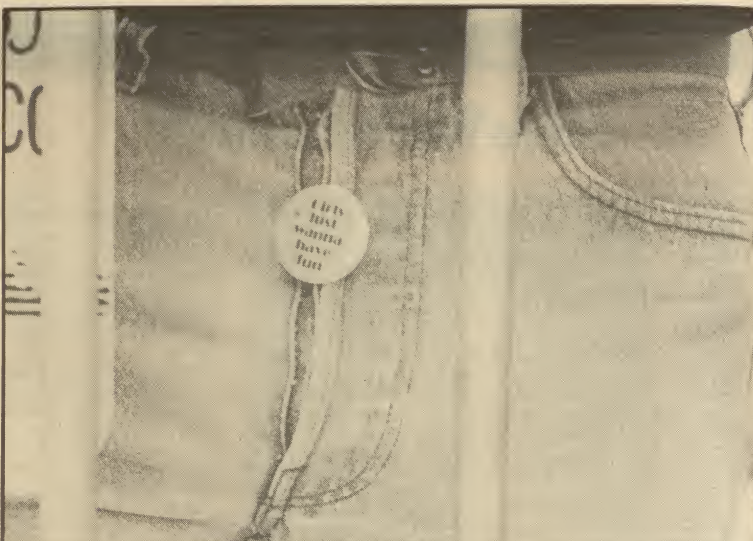
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Girls may want to have fun, but apparently not GOPs. No Gay Old Parties for MSU's Young Republicans (Photo: James Dusch)

'Riveting' Drama For GOP

EAST LANSING, MI—Leave it to the Republicans when it comes to letting it all hang out against gay folks. A little story off the Michigan State University campus serves as our lesson for the day.

It seems as though the Lesbian/Gay Council on the MSU campus decided to hold a "Blue Jeans Day" during the school's Gay/Lesbian Pride Week. While it could be argued that pretty ones in tight 501s could open all kinds of cruising chances, that wasn't the aim of the LGC. The organization was hoping that if some gals and guys wore their button flies, they might experience some nasty words on a well-publicized gay holiday.

If they learned from that experience, they might be more empathetic to what gay folks go through, according to the logic of the LGC.

That logic didn't set well with the MSU College Republicans. The young GOPers distributed fliers calling Blue Jeans Day a "ridiculous farce." They urged all het Spartans (That's the school's nickname, and we all know about those Spartans don't we?) who were "against homosexuals" to "fight back" by wearing white shirts with their jeans.

Well, this white collar crime didn't set well with the LGC. The organization filed a complaint with MSU's Anti-Discrimination Judicial Board. No decision has come yet from the board, but the young Republicans could lose its status as a registered student organization or could be forced to issue a public apology.

—The Michigan State News
of East Lansing

Thompson Urged To Veto 'Coercive' Bill

SPRINGFIELD, IL—Illinois Gov. James Thompson has a decision to make which may affect his image as a moderate among Republicans. Thompson has been asked by gay activists, health care professionals and civil libertarians in Illinois to veto an AIDS legislative package described by one expert as the "broadest, most coercive" bill dealing with that subject.

The package of bills was given heavy support in Illinois' General Assembly in late June. The package includes:

- Mandated HIV-antibody testing for hospital patients between the ages of 13 and 55, marriage license applicants, sex offenders, inmates entering and leaving prisons and those convicted of IV drug abuse;
- Directing the state Public Health Dept. to collect the names and addresses of all HIV-positive people, plus those with AIDS or ARC, and ask them to identify their sexual partners over the past seven years. The agency would then be required to try and contact these partners to warn them of potential exposure to the disease;
- Requiring the Public Health Dept. to seek a court order to quarantine a person whose behavior threatens to transmit the virus;
- Establishing standards of confidentiality to protect the identities of people with AIDS. Anyone tested or counseled would have to give prior written consent;
- Mandating AIDS education in the schools in grades 6 through 12 as part of comprehensive

health education programs.

Not all the legislation was considered bad by gay activists, especially items about confidentiality. But civil libertarians were concerned with provisions about extensive mandated testing, contact tracing and quarantining. As a result, they asked Thompson to use his veto.

Revenge Motive In 4 U.K. Slayings

LONDON—A fashion boutique manager carrying the AIDS virus has been sentenced to life in prison after admitting he killed four men and attempted to kill two others, according to Associated Press reports.

Michele Lupo, 34, originally from Bologna, Italy, pleaded guilty to killing the men during an eight-week period last year. The court, which handed down the sentence July 10, was told he strangled all but one of his victims during sado-masochistic sex sessions in derelict buildings.

Lupo, who moved to London in 1974, offered no motive during the trial at the Old Bailey Criminal Court. British press reports quoted detectives as saying the former Italian Army commando was seeking revenge after discovering he had the AIDS virus.

Prosecutor Julian Bevan told the court that Lupo killed and mutilated the men because it gratified his sadistic sexual tastes.

Three of Lupo's murder victims were men he picked up in pubs. The fourth was a tramp who asked the Italian for a cigarette on a London bridge.

Lupo told police he "just had this feeling inside me to kill," the prosecutor said.

The AP reported that Lupo

was arrested after an intended victim survived a murder attempt and helped police trap his attacker in a south London pub.

GOP Blocks 'Law And Order'

ALBANY, NY—New York Republican senators blocked a bill which would have increased penalties for hate-motivated crimes which dealt with gay-related violence. The bill, introduced jointly by Gov. Mario Cuomo (D) and Attorney General Robert Abrams (D), was never brought to a vote in the Republican-controlled Senate. The Democratic-controlled Assembly had been set to approve the legislation.

The bill would have raised penalties for crimes motivated by a victim's race, creed, color, national origin, sex, disability or sexual orientation. The bill said these offenses included "bias-related violence and intimidation" and made the penalty one degree more severe than for crimes not motivated by bias. In addition, the bill provided more chances for legal action by either the victim or the attorney general.

Charles Dumas, a spokesperson for Senate Republicans, said "There was a general feeling among various (Republican) senators that the bill would be setting a precedent by creating a special protection in the criminal law for homosexuals. They questioned whether that should be done. They wanted to think about it some more."

It's funny, though, isn't it? Those Law 'N' Order boys never have any trouble thinking twice about harsh action against other kinds of criminals.

—The Advocate

Women's Bldg. Survived Bomb, But Can It Beat The Bank?

Multi-Purpose Community Center Faces Balloon Payment

by Mary Richards

The Women's Building, a San Francisco Landmark and the only multi-purpose facility owned and run by women in the U.S., has been bombed, set on fire and ransacked by politically motivated vandals. But the building endures despite the attempts to destroy it. It survives because of the commitment and faith of its board of directors, staff and volunteers. And to a great extent it also owes its survival to support from the gay and lesbian community, as well as progressive people from every sector of the city.

Now, however, a new challenge is rising to the building's survival. On April 1, 1989 a final balloon payment of \$412,000 is due. If funds to meet this huge debt cannot be secured before that time, women as well as men in varying political and social groups in San Francisco will have lost a primary institution.

Bought by the San Francisco Women's Centers in 1978, the building was declared a landmark in March 1985.

Although board of directors president Carmen Vazquez and fundraising coordinator Holly Fincke are both aware of the pressure of monetary deadlines, it is difficult for them to look to the future when the present is so demanding.

Holly was not one of the founding members of the organization, but says, "From what I hear about that time (1978) people underestimated what it took to run a building. When you get down to it, the toilet paper has to be in the bathrooms, the lobby has to be swept, garbage comes up against the building and the neighbors get upset — it needs to be swept every day. All the things that you don't think of when you're dreaming of utopia. It's still a struggle."

The building is managed by five daytime staff and two evening security staff. They answer the phones, book the rooms, and refer people to appropriate services. Two of those staff women are in the collective, which is also the board of directors.

Carmen describes how the Women's Building functions. "This is a collectively managed organization — meaning that there is a central collective made up of community members and staff people that form the board of directors, which guides fiscal management and policy decisions," she said.

"We do make decisions by consensus, and we make sure that each of the persons on that collective and board has an area of responsibility that's very specific. There's a list of criteria (to join the collective) and that includes making sure that we've got different sectors and groups: women of color, women of working class backgrounds, women who have a commitment to organizing within the lesbian community, with straight women."

The structure houses nine women's groups and acts as a centralizing place for women's issues. It is also used by a number of lesbian and gay organizations. Scanning even a partial list of the many organizations which have used the Women's Building for meetings, forums and conferences, gives one an idea of the magnitude of the loss which would be experienced by the community. The groups include Mobilization Against AIDS, Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Committee, the Harvey Milk and Alice

B. Toklas Lesbian and Gay Democratic Clubs, San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Lesbian and Gay Historical Society, March on Washington Committee and Gay Games II.

Carmen remembers how volunteers and staff tried to cope with the arson attempt, a month of bomb threats, and finally the actual bombing that they experienced in 1980. "It was very tough — we learned a lot. After the bomb, morale was really low. People were tired, frustrated, angry, scared. And we weren't

able to do our jobs," she said.

"We had a meeting and talked about it, and what came out of that was a decision to go very public, to invite the press and make a statement to the effect that we're not going to take this. We knew clearly that the level of harassment that's being directed at us is an attempt to shut us down, to discourage us, and we're not going away. We feel that we've got the support from this community to be an important institution in the community and to stay there. (Continued on next page)



Carmen Vazquez remembered the tough days after the bombing. (Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

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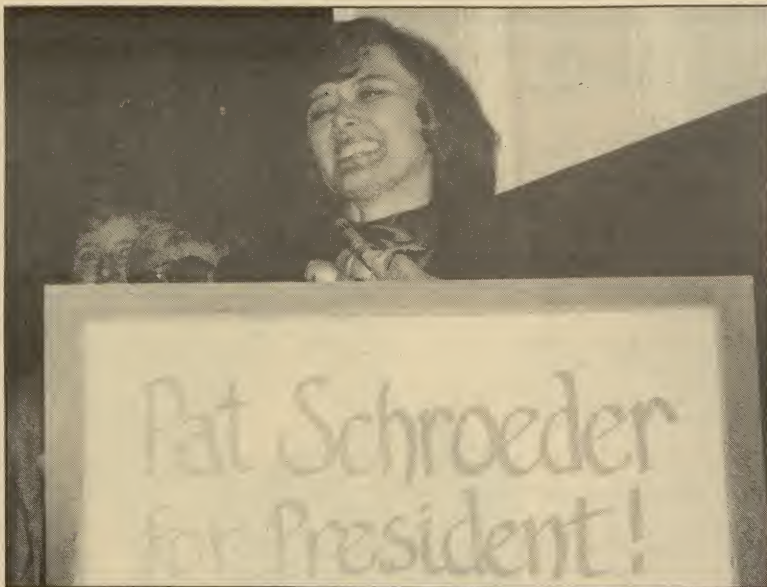
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'You don't do away with AIDS by throwing moralism at people': Pat Schroeder
(Photo: Scott Martin)

Rendezvous With Reality

No More Time For Tinker Bell in White House, Says Rep. Pat Schroeder, 'Potential' Candidate

by Will Snyder

U.S. Rep. Pat Schroeder (D-CO) spent Saturday, Aug. 1 in San Francisco, exploring her possibilities for the office of President of the United States. At the end of the evening, the witty dean of U.S. congresswomen left the city's gay and lesbian groups thinking in terms of another pro-gay candidate for the White House.

Schroeder told a group of wildly-cheering supporters cramped into the reception room of The Langtry bed and breakfast inn that a female president would give Americans "a rendezvous with reality." In gay-related remarks, the 46-year-old Schroeder voiced opinions about Fundamentalists and the U.S. Supreme Court that brought smiles to gay and lesbian faces.

"AIDS is a very serious epidemic. You don't do away with AIDS by throwing moralism at people," said Schroeder in a reference to the Fundamentalist-dominated Reagan Administration. "We need a president who will stop polarizing people. We need a president who will bring us all back together."

"We don't need to bait one another."

Schroeder added that she was opposed to the nomination of District of Columbia Circuit Court Judge Robert H. Bork for the U.S. Supreme Court. She said it was "not dangerous" to deny Bork a spot on the bench or stymie Republican attempts to pack the court with judicial conservatives. Bork was nominated for the Court by Pres. Ronald Reagan and is considered an anti-gay arch-conservative.

Schroeder, who considered entry into the race for the White House after Sen. Gary Hart (another Coloradan) dropped out, hasn't officially announced her candidacy for the presidency. That's the reason she was in town. She has to raise a minimum of \$1 million to run for the White House, although she has publicly admitted that she'd rather get double that total. In contrast, Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis already has raised \$4.6 million. Other Democrats, from Sen. Joseph Biden (\$3.2 million) down to U.S. Rep. Richard Gephardt (\$2.2 million) have raised the kind of money Schroeder thinks is necessary for a campaign.

Schroeder said she feels she needs more money to compete on the campaign trail and said that "the only way I'll run is if I have a chance to win."

She said she feels she has a chance to win. She told a crowd sprinkled with gay and lesbian supporters that "the American people may be ready for a clean sweep of the White House."

Schroeder levelled witty put-downs at the Reagan Administration. "There is no more time for Tinker Bell in this country where you spread a little magic dust and everything turns out okay," she said. "You can't balance the budget by raising defense spending. That's like trying to live on a hot fudge sundae diet."

"It's time," she added, "that we started operating with our brains, not our glands."

Although the majority of the supporters present were women, there were many men and children present, too. Nevertheless, women present couldn't hide their delight with the Colorado congresswoman.

One supporter claimed that the continuing soap opera known as the Iran/Contra Hearings in Washington may have opened the door for a fresher look at a female candidate for the presidency.

"A female candidate can be perceived as having a great deal of integrity," said Shireen Miles, state coordinator for National Organization for Women (NOW), "and Pat's integrity is impeccable. After the problems they've been having in Washington these days, Pat looks pretty good to a lot of people."

Miles went on to point out that Schroeder's 15-year stint as a member of the House Armed Forces Committee gives her longer tenure and more experience in dealing with the military than any other candidate running for president.

Women's Bldg

(Continued from previous page)

"After that," she remembers, "we felt invincible. It really turned around. And I think the building's life and history changed a lot from that point on. We may not make it because of other things, but nobody's going to push us out."

They may not be pushed out, but until that final payment is made in April 1989, in many ways the Women's Building is still under siege.

The Capital Campaign is the umbrella under which the push for funds will be brought to the community. As well as the balloon payment, it includes money for needed renovations for the historical structure.

Holly speaks of the response from the community to their endeavors. "People spontaneously, as individuals, have been supporting the building very heavily, particularly the lesbian community. When we look at the people who have been giving us money, year after year, by monthly and quarterly pledges, by far the ma-

jority of those folks are lesbians.

"But I think what we're going to look to as far as the Capital Campaign is the kinds of services people can provide to the building, and also other organizations in the gay and lesbian community being a part of this, saying 'we're interested, or we can assign someone from our membership to solicit (funds) from members.'"

Carmen adds, "What hasn't happened in a way that I would like to see it happen — and I hope it does in the Capital Campaign — is to see the lesbian and gay community take the building on as our institution. It is our institution. Thirty years down the line, when some lesbian or young gay man comes to San Francisco, they're going to come here to be part of what this community created."

Any individuals or organizations wishing to make contact for services or to be part of the Capital Campaign, can write or phone The Women's Building, 3543 18th Street, San Francisco 94110, (415) 431-1180.

Benefit For Face to Face

On Sunday evening, Aug. 16 at 8 p.m., the Marquee Theatre presents That's What Friends Are For, a benefit performance for Face to Face/The Sonoma County AIDS Network. This musical revue is dedicated to the memory of friends no longer with us and also in support of those living with AIDS.

Directed and conceived by award-winning playwright Paul Gilger this bright new musical revue of memorable Broadway showtunes stars John Lusk,

Pamela Brooks, Tom Anderson and musical director Bob Bauer. All donate their time and talent. They perform That's What Friends Are For wherever there might be a request for an AIDS benefit or event.

Tony Gianchetta, owner of the Marquee Theatre, said, "In my estimation Santa Rosa hasn't seen a cabaret show of this caliber before."

Tickets are \$35 per person or \$50 a couple. If you'd like to reserve a place for an evening of theatre and champagne dessert call Moira Anderson at (707) 578-1795.

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Naming Names

On Oct. 11, Washington Will Know About 'The New Light In God's Sky'

by Tim Taylor

The grieving survivors of thousands of people who died of AIDS are finding strength and hope in the creation of a national "AIDS Quilt." It is a massive handsewn fabric memorial to the victims of the epidemic.

Called the Names Project, it draws heavily on the American folk-art tradition of communal quilt-making. It has brought together parents, lovers and friends who are sharing memories and common purpose in the simple stitching of the names of loved ones on individual banners.

On Oct. 11, during the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights, thousands of these individual banners will be joined together in front of the United States Capitol in a dramatic illustration of the epidemic's toll.



A supporter (far left) joins project coordinators Jim Vinson, Cleve Jones and Jack Castor below the billboard.

(Photo: Steve Savage)

For the people making the banners, the emotion of that moment will be a culmination of their own energy and commitment, and love for the person remembered.

Cleve Jones, the coordinator of the project, said the quilt-making is driven "by the certain knowledge that we are going to



One of the names.

(Photo: Steve Savage)

create a really extraordinary illustration of the enormity of the epidemic. At the same time we are expressing positively the terrible grief we all share."

Jones remembered the number of friends he had lost and added, "What the hell are we supposed to do, forget them? Bury these memories along with them? I loved these men."

The Names Project, he said, helps participants "break

through the grief and express it in a way that is positive. We want people to keep fighting."

The individual panels, each measuring 3 feet by 6 feet, are as distinctive and diverse as the people remembered. Some are whimsical and funny, incorporating themes from work or play. Liberace's banner was appropriately dazzling with sequins and glitz. Some, like the banner for Roger Lyons, are embroidered



Working on the project

(Photo: Steve Savage)

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Illustration by Laura H. Young

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with short messages woven in around the name. "Roger, when I need strength I think of you," writes his friend Cindy. "I love you Roger."

Others are eloquent in the simplicity of their letters and the obvious caring in each stitch.

Ron Cordova, the technical director of the Names Project, spoke of the nationwide outreach effort underway to involve loved ones of all those who have died of AIDS—gay men, women, children, IV drug users. He spoke passionately about overcoming the stigma and bias that still is felt by people suffering from this illness, and of the value the Names Project has in helping those living overcome their feelings of helplessness.

"I don't feel alone in my anger," Cordova said after making a banner for a lost friend. "It's a positive way to make a statement. I'm angry, but it's okay to be angry. It's a way to deal with (the epidemic) together."

And Cordova, who is a designer, insists that everyone has the creativity and inherent skill to make a banner.

Jones said that people are encouraged to make a quilt in groups. "We want this to be as much an experience for the person making the panel," he said. Groups get together and exchange anecdotes "making it a shared, creative positive experience." But many panels come in,

(Continued on next page)

How To Join The Names Project

by Tim Taylor

The Names Project has prepared a brochure detailing the following set of requirements and guidelines for people who want to participate in the quilt-making.

- Cut and hem a sturdy, lightweight piece of fabric to *exactly 3 feet by 6 feet*. (Sewers at The Names Project will hem the banner for you if you leave an extra 3 inches on each side.) The fabric can be any color or colors.
- Design your letters using any variety of techniques including applique, paint, a collage of materials (one banner is made of the shirts of the person being remembered) stencils or embroidery.
- When the panel is finished, write a letter to accompany it that describes the person being remembered and the importance he or she had in your life. Include a photograph, if one is available.
- Bring or mail the panel to The Names Project

headquarters, making sure it is wrapped securely to avoid damage in transit.

- Please include a generous donation to help meet the cost of transportation and materials (the completed quilt will weigh several tons and extend hundreds of feet).
- The Names Project is not concerned with duplications of names and will use all panels received, even if some individuals names are used more than once. Panels may be prepared vertically or horizontally.

All panels must be received by Sept. 15, although you are encouraged to get them in as early as possible. All materials submitted become the property of The Names Project and cannot be returned or reclaimed by the sender.

The Names Project is located at 2362 Market Street between Noe and Castro Streets (where the Apartment Store was located). The phone number is 863-5511.



'I want to see this go past Oct. 11, but I want to be there when the last flag is made, when the epidemic is over.'

—Jack Castor
(Photo: Steve Savage)

Names Proj.

(Continued from previous page)

the result of individual efforts, and Jones welcomes those contributions also.

With each panel, quilt-makers are also encouraged to submit a letter remembering the characteristics and events that made the person special, and a photograph if one is available. Reggie from Georgia was remembered by his lover who said their relationship contributed to "the happiest times of our lives." Tom from Pennsylvania "should be remembered as one who uncompromisingly fought for social justice and gay rights."

Lloyd from southern California "was your closest friend, and once you found that place in his life he was as forgiving as he was demanding. He always said, 'you've got to go through some really bad stuff to have any good come out.'" And Jerry from California was "the most loving, caring and giving person we have ever known," wrote Jim, Suzanne, Pat and Darlene.

"Bob's name is among his beloved stars," wrote his friend Rick, "and if there is a new light in God's sky, it may be Bob's." Fran called her friend Richard "a charming fellow and an appreciative friend," adding that Richard's unassuming nature stopped her from making more personal revelations.

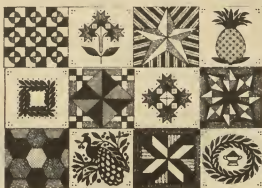
The energy that is fueling the completion of the quilt comes from countless numbers of volunteers who pour in off the street. According to Jones, "People walk in our door and they are transformed on the spot." And that transformation translates into an extraordinary burst of activity that is keeping the Market Street office of The Names Project open from 10 a.m. until 12 Midnight. As a result, space can be made available to individuals or groups who want to join in making a banner, or help in assembling the quilt. Fabrics and other materials are also available for a donation.

For Jones, The Names Project "begins on Oct. 11" and he envisions a national tour using the quilt as a centerpiece for fundraising events for projects involving housing, food banks and counseling for people with AIDS.

There will also be local displays of the quilt before the Oct. 11 rally, including Neiman-Marcus which is donating the windows of its Union Square store for a showing of some quilts from Aug. 23-28.

Although the making of the

quilt will be an ongoing project, Ron Cordova recounts a comment made by Jack Castor, the volunteer coordinator of The Names Project. Castor said, "I want to see this go past Oct. 11, but I want to be there when the last flag is made, when the epidemic is over."



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only one to prevent it.

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DEATHS

Tom Hunt

10/14/48 - 8/1/87

Tommy's gone. Another good person has left us. A kind, gentle spirit, he leaves family and many friends with happy memories.



Tom lived in San Francisco for a dozen years and touched many lives as bartender or waiter at Buzzby's, Pacific Exchange and Carlene's of Maui. He was a devoted member of the Tavern Guild's Thursday Night

Bowling League.

A party will be held in his honor on Wednesday, Aug. 12. For more information, call either 821-9242 or 864-6408. Donations can also be made to the AIDS charity of your choice, all of which provided support to him when it was so needed.

We do not mourn our loss, but rejoice in having loved him.

Jerry Bumgarner

1/7/50 - 6/28/87

Beloved Jerry! Your final exit was choreographed with your typical flair — dazzling us with the strength of your love, then slipping quietly away while we were celebrating Gay Freedom Day!

We who love you, give you this gift — a collage of memories of how you touched us:

... the child growing up in suburban L.A. ... your love of music ... your drive to perform ... your jokes ... the college music/teaching major ... your decision not to teach — though we learned much from knowing you ... your glittering "coming out" in Hollywood ... your solo dance and comedy performances as the "gay Fred Astaire" ... deciding to make San Francisco your home ... the dedication to your communications work ... your love for people ... your jokes ... your charity fund-raising shows with the "SF God Damn Independents" ... helping others through the night ministry ... finding your LCCSF family (who really found who at that Castro pinball machine?) ... the song you wrote ... your jokes ... showing up at a black and white affair in a rainbow sequined bowtie ... magically producing the perfect card at the very moment a friend was feeling down ... your beautiful tenor voice ... your jokes ... your performances at chorus retreat talent shows ... adorning yourself with tree ornaments at Christmas ... spontaneous renditions of "Sissy Boy" ... the hilarious buttons only you ever managed to find ... your determination to teach the Kaiser Hospital staff that someone with AIDS can have a sense of humor ... the jokes you entertained us with from your hospital bed ... your tears when Jim gave you the Pride Concert button ... your relentless nagging until the doctor gave your permission to leave the hospital for the Pride Concert ... rescheduling your surgery to look your best for the concert ... worrying about what to wear ... your schemes for sneaking out of the hospital to go shopping ... looking festive in rainbow suspenders ... your jokes ... your new beard ... your warmth ... your eyes ... your hugs ...

Jerry, you will stay in our hearts forever.

Love,
Your LCCSF Family, Jim and
All Your Friends

For all who knew Jerry there will be a gathering to celebrate his memory and the joy life holds for us all, on Saturday, August 8. Contact Rosemary at 566-6496 for details.

Ed Mayberry

Edward Mayberry, 43, passed away peacefully on July 19 of AIDS. He is survived by his mother, Mary Shaw, his aunt Anne Wallace, his brother Austin, his best friend David Lauren and countless friends in both Arizona and San Francisco.

Like his artwork, he put his heart and soul into the people his path crossed. He will be forever missed by many. A memorial service will be held at the Japanese Tea Garden in Golden Gate Park on Sunday, Aug. 9 at 7 p.m.

For more information, please contact David or George at 861-6625. Gifts in memory of Edward may be donated to the Shanti Project.

Ed, I hope you weave and paint the sunrises and sunsets of heaven forever. I love you, David.

Robert L. Tatum

On July 17, Robert L. Tatum passed away at Mt. Zion Hospital. A native of Camden, AR., Robert was a schoolteacher who taught in Chicago and San Francisco.



He loved to party, and he did so almost to the end ... just a couple of weeks before his death.

He is survived by his loving mother, Betty Meeks of Chicago, and his loving friend Alvin,

Steve, Paul, David and many, many more.

Rest in peace, Robert. We'll all miss you.

Donations in Robert's name may be made to the AIDS Foundation in San Francisco.

James S. Thomas

12/7/49 - 8/1/87

Jimmy died quietly Saturday morning (Aug. 1). He lived with AIDS for two years, remaining ever positive. He pursued a selfless, imaginative and creative existence that overjoyed and enlightened anyone that allowed themselves to be his friend. He was and still is the epitome of the handsome, little sweetheart.



As a gift to himself and those who loved him, especially his parents, he struggled through school and received his master's degree in Interior Design from S.F. State University one month before

his passing. He did not leave this life until he knew that all that could be done was done.

Jimmy, although those of us who were blessed by being your lover, your family and your friends feel an unsurmountable emptiness, we are consoled by the way you lived your life. You showed us how simple it is to totally love someone and still let them be who they are.

We love you, we miss you.

Gary S. Johnson

Gary Steven Johnson lost his painful battle with AIDS at 7:30 a.m., on July 10 at Scenic General Hospital in Modesto. He was born on March 26, 1957, in Louisville, KY. As a small child moved to Modesto. Gary was an 11-year resident of San Francisco, and was a long-term employee of Rosebud's Restaurant. He loved to travel and remembered as some of his best times his trips to Hawaii and his sailing through the Caribbean. He was loved by many and his loss will be deeply felt.



Gary leaves behind his parents, Thomas and Shirley Johnson of Modesto, brother Thomas Johnson, Jr., and his companion Alan Irving of San Francisco, brother and sister-in-law Michael and Ter-

rie Johnson of Santa Rosa, sister and brother-in-law Nica and Steve Wilkinson, brother and sister-in-law Mark and Louise Johnson, brothers Terry, Roger and Gregory, all of Modesto, Nieces Shana and Lisa, nephews Corey, Joshua, Brandon and Ian. Grandmother Ellen C. Miller of Louisville, KY, and many loving relatives. Special friends Tina, Patrick, Zane, Helen, Joanne, Richard, John, Jeff, David, Cora, and Sean.

For more information, call Tommie or Alan at 751-0349.

Michael Murphy

Michael, an AIDS victim who became an advocate for other victims of the disease, died on July 19 of Kaposi's sarcoma, an illness associated with AIDS.



Michael co-founded Marathon Project to emphasize living with AIDS, not dying from it. The project, named for his analogy between marathon running and coping with AIDS, used visualization and relaxation techniques. "It doesn't take an ounce of talent to die with AIDS, but it takes a lot to live with it," Michael told the Chicago Sun-Times in a June interview.

Michael, an actor and social-work student at Loyola University of Chicago, also wrote a 16-page booklet called *Encouragement For a Person with AIDS*.

Fredric L. Hoffman

Fredric Lee Hoffman left us on Sunday morning, Aug. 2. He left peacefully after a struggle of nearly three years. He fought tirelessly and with dignity. He would not



give in to this process that would give him little peace. Our life together, including fighting his illness, was rich and rewarding. No one could ask for a more devoted and caring lover than Fred. I will miss him terribly.

Thanks to Dr. Bill Owen for his limitless care and attention, to Jocelyn Nielsen for teaching him and us how to overcome, to deal, and to accept, to his loving and supportive parents, to our friend Gayle Harlow, and to all of our many friends who helped and supported us during this ordeal.

David Greer, Jr.

David Greer, 43, long-time resident of San Francisco, passed away on July 25. David was born in Denver, graduated from the University of Virginia and served as Managing Editor of the *Western Journal of Medicine* for 15 years. In this capacity, David was a dedicated and respected employee of the California Medical Association in San Francisco. David is survived by his loving parents Harriett and David Greer, Sr., and his devoted sister Kirsten Greer. A gathering of family and friends will be held at David's home, #17 - 28th Street in San Francisco on Sunday, Aug. 9 at 2 p.m. Donations may be made in David's name to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

Obituary Policy

Due to an unfortunately large number of obituaries, Bay Area Reporter has been forced to change its obituary policy.

We must now restrict obits to 200 words. And please, no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity and taste.

Cromey To Speak At Gay Feds

One of the Episcopal church's most controversial priests, Rev. Robert Cromey, will speak at the August meeting of Federal Lesbians and Gays (FLAG). Fr. Cromey, although non-gay, has been a gay rights advocate for over twenty years. As early as 1966 he was demonstrating at the Federal

Building protesting the federal government's exclusion of lesbians and gays from the military. He continues to outrage his critics and is currently involved in opposition to the papal visit.

Fr. Cromey is presently rector of Trinity Episcopal Church, a popular parish among gay people.

FLAG meets on Wednesday, Aug. 12 at Rooney's 22-9th Street, San Francisco at 6 p.m. A

\$2 donation helps cover the cost of a buffet with a no-host bar available.

FLAG is a support organization for gay and lesbian federal employees which provides community outreach, counseling, socializing, and advocacy.

For further information, call 695-9174.

'Face of AIDS' Hits U.S. Newsstands

National Magazine Profiles 300 PWAs

by Allen White

Newsweek has released its emotionally devastating cover story "The Face of AIDS" while the San Francisco Health Department reported 64 more AIDS deaths during July. Together they dramatically focus the human tragedy and the staggering toll being taken by this disease.

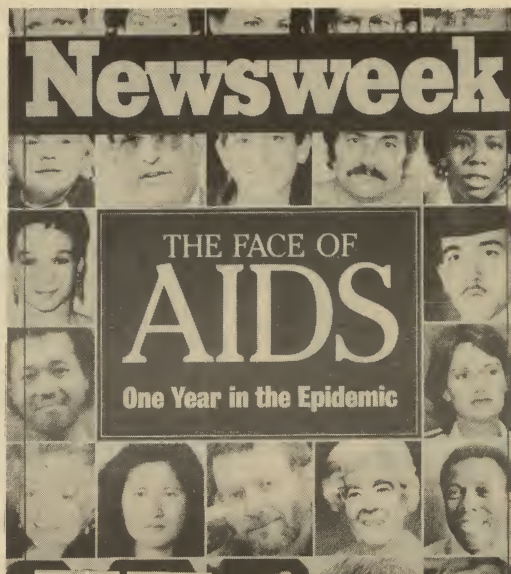
Last month more people died of AIDS in San Francisco than at any time since the epidemic began in 1981. The July statistics bring the total deaths in the city to 2,094.

Many of those who died have been profiled in a Newsweek special report. The magazine describes the feature as "the photo journal of a plague year — a gallery of 302 men, women and

children struck down by the epidemic in the 12 months ending last week."

Of the 302 people, 40 are from San Francisco and an additional 15 are from Northern California.

Mostly they are gay men. Many of those from San Francisco are well known to the gay community. Gay Olympian Tom Waddell, theatrical director Chuck Solomon,



political activist Gerry Parker, Gay Band director Lesene Van Antwerp are all part of this visual essay. Mark Sigers, 31, the San Francisco waiter whom Delta Air Lines had removed from their airplane because he had AIDS is profiled.

Some were well known on the national level: Liberace, Connecticut Republican Congressman Stewart McKinney; Joseph McCarthy's attorney Roy Cohn; Washington gay rights activist Melvin Boozer, former Washington Redskins professional football player Jerry Smith; Michael Bennett, the creator of *Chorus Line*, and Terry Dolan, the fundraiser for anti-gay causes, are all included.

As the prominent personalities are mentioned, so too are people who have never achieved any type of public recognition.

There is Frank Blake, 34, a graphic designer from Santa Fe, Corlane Keller, 44, a prison in-

(Continued on page 22)



The beginning of Sha'ar Zahav.

(Photo: Rink)

From The Heart

Sha'ar Zahav Celebrates 10 Years

by Allen White

"Tradition, don't forget tradition," said Sharyn Saslafsky, as she proudly discussed the tenth anniversary of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav. The pride of lesbian and gay Jews in San Francisco celebrates its first decade with Ten Years From The Heart Saturday night at the Green Room in the War Memorial Veterans Building.

The past ten years have seen the gay Jewish congregation successfully move into their own synagogue. The location is at Danvers and Caselli, a quiet residential corner in the Castro District.

Sha'ar Zahav's membership now stands at 350. It has seen a rapid growth in the last few years. Saslafsky points out the fact that children are now a part of the congregation. It is a sign of maturity by the members and by the community which they are part of.

That community is significant. They are a member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, one of the national associations of Jewish synagogues.

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav has been a pioneer in giving direction in the AIDS crisis. One of its members, Mark Feldman, was one of half a dozen people who set the tone for a compassionate and reasoned response in San Francisco.

Rabbi Yoel Kahn summed up the synagogue's role in the AIDS crisis by saying, "God has no arms to care with, but our arms. God has no voice to comfort with, but our voice."

One way they help is through their AIDS Food Bank Fund.

Each week the congregation fills two large food baskets set up at the entrance to the synagogue for the Food Bank. During the

high holy days, Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur, truckloads of food were donated. "It is a very special statement," said Sharyn Saslafsky.

Another way Congregation Sha'ar Zahav has set themselves apart is through the participation of women. Forty percent of the congregation is women. All their worship services have now been rewritten with the use of inclusive language and nongender specific references to God.

The group was formed in 1977 at Clide Church. Rev. Cecil Williams gave them the facilities for their first meetings. They moved to a gay community center, then to a Buddhist monastery, the Women's Building, and the Jewish Community Center before finally settling at the Danvers Street location.

In 1979, they hired their first rabbi, an openly gay man.

Next Friday night (Aug. 7) he will lead his congregation in their 10th Anniversary service which will start at 8:15 p.m. The following night (Aug. 8) the celebration will be held at the Green Room at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$25.

It is somehow appropriate that Congregation Sha'ar Zahav will celebrate their first decade with the publication of a cookbook. The title is also appropriate, "Our of Our Kitchen Closets: San Francisco Gay Jewish Cooking." They say there will be a recipe for gay chicken soup. ●

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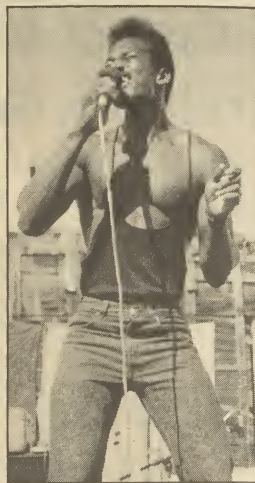
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(Photo: James Dusch)

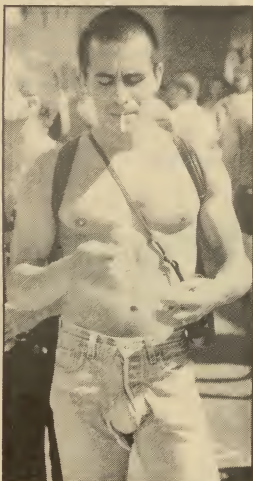


(Photo: Robert Pruzan)



(Photo: James Dusch)

(Photo: James Dusch)



Up Your Alley!!

SOMA Fair Combines Leather, Music, Games

by Allen White

For the third year, the Up Your Alley people turned a South of Market alley into a carnival of leather, music and games. This year it was the Dore Alley Fair. The alley was the relocation of the previous year's Ringold Alley events. For those familiar with the city's gay life, it is known that nightly Ringold Alley was to some gay men what Macy's toy department is to kids at Christmas.

Jerry Vallaire and Patrick Toner decided to turn the alley into a party pad and see what happened. To their surprise the event was so successful, they had to move to a larger alley. Thus, the move this year to Dore Alley.

Dore Alley appears an extension straight out the door of the Powerhouse bar. The Powerhouse became a semi-headquarters for those who prefer their

leather clad men in dark light.

Those who ventured onto the sunlit street got quite a party.

For the first time there was a

full stage. With Mr. Marcus officiating as Master (with a capital M) of Ceremonies and Eric Nielsen handling the stage manager chores, it was non-stop entertainment all afternoon.

Danny Williams, Maureen Brownsey and Barry Brady were the comics of the day. Shawn Benson, Jo-Carol performed and there were the live bands. Miss Kitty and the Cycle Souls, American English and Impulse F provided solid, hard-driving music throughout the day. Keeping the somewhat sleazy reputation of the fair intact, the stripper of the day was Mark Miller.

The surprise of the day was a special award from San Francisco's leather community to Sup. John Molinari. The award was a joint presentation from San Francisco Eagle owner Terry Thompson, Mister Marcus, Toner and Vallaire. The award was for Molinari's support for over a decade in the gay community.

The many carnival type booths combined sleazy, political statements and a certain amount of chance and skill. There was the "Dunk a Dyke, Drown a Drag" device where the opportunity is sold to send a person crashing into a huge barrel of water.

Dart games were set up with the targets being members of the United States Supreme Court.

The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence were doing their thing for the cameras from ABC's 20/20. All those who wanted and succeeded at getting in front of the cameras will see themselves just before the Pope's visit with their favorite sister on 20/20.

There were several food booths set up by the various offshoots of San Francisco's royalty.

A primary purpose is to raise money. Up Your Alley organizers said they hope to see a project of about \$7,500 which will be distributed to various gay charities.

(Photo: James Dusch)



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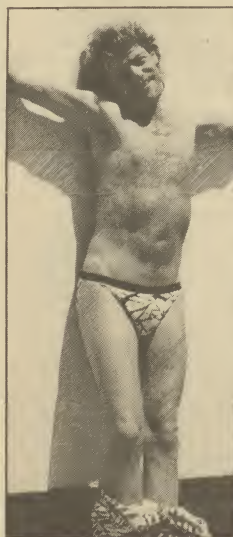
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(Photo: Robert Pruzan)



(Photo: James Dusch)

BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS



Rich Gordon

(Photo: Ted Sahl)

Rich Gordon

Gay Activist to Head Kiwanis Club

by Marv. Shaw

The man who is probably the prime achiever in gay activism on the Peninsula will soon add another important role to his list. Richard Gordon, 39, with leadership in MAYMEC and ELLIPSE already to his credit, will become president of the Redwood City Kiwanis Club on Oct. 1. As far as Gordon knows, he is the only openly gay man to win that post in the worldwide organization.

What personal qualities and circumstances brought about this advancement? In a recent interview, Gordon revealed a combination of deep dedication, highly developed skills, unremitting effort—and a unique climate of acceptance.

No stranger to leadership in straight organizations, Gordon, who was chair of the San Mateo County Charter Revision Committee last year, nevertheless approached running for the civic group's highest post with some hesitation. He has been a Kiwanian since 1981 and out as a gay man since 1982. Gordon assumed that most members in the Redwood City group knew he was gay, but he was doubtful of the step.

Kiwanis rules call for a president-elect system. A nominating committee approached him in June 1986 to run for that prior office, the understanding being that he would become resident automatically this year.

Gordon's first reaction was to decline, giving his reasons as a commitment to local concerns and a feeling that, as a gay man, his leadership might not be accepted.

The nominating committee, whose chair had not known that Gordon was gay, reviewed his declination and responded that the Kiwanis Club also considered local concerns paramount—and that his being gay was no issue.

FULL PARTICIPATION

On these grounds the candidate accepted. In the election there were no negative votes and no noticeable homophobia.

Though he suspects that one member might resign or transfer to another Kiwanis Club, it appears Gordon has won on his work record and general reputation.

When asked what significance he saw in his victory, Gordon replied, "I believe it demonstrates that it is possible to be publicly yourself and to participate fully in the community, but it might also mean that sexual orientation means less here than it does elsewhere."

A Peninsula native, Gordon was born in San Mateo and was raised in that city and Hillsborough. In his later teens, his family moved to Southern California, where Gordon got his B.A. in sociology from U.S.C. and began a youth ministry with the Methodist Church. Soon after, he enrolled in a seminary at Northwestern University in Evanston, IL, where he attained an M.A. in divinity and continued his youth ministry in an outreach program for street kids.

In 1976, he returned to the Peninsula and went to work for the Youth and Family Services Division of the Sequoia YMCA in Redwood City. At that time, his entire job was a project serving 150 kids. Since, it has expanded to serving 2,000 young people a year.

"I don't do as much direct case work as I used to," he admitted with a tone of regret. "My time is taken up with securing funding and services for the programs I administer."

He informed the director of the YMCA Board of Trustees in 1982 that he was gay. After an initial acceptance the board ruled

that a review was necessary if Youth and Family Services were to continue getting vital community support.

It was proposed to Gordon, whose work performance was considered excellent, that he ask an ad hoc group of five individuals to consider and respond on his fitness for continuation. All five, including a local chief of police and an assistant county manager, supported him. "They were all incredibly supportive," Gordon remembers.

About his position since, he states, "I have never been treated in any negative or unpleasant way."

OPENING DOORS

How did he become a gay activist? Gordon replied that he doesn't see himself in precisely that way. "I am more of a community activist who happens to be gay," he explained, adding that for him, "community" means the total one, not just the gay segment.

However, Gordon sees himself and his activities having value to other gay men and women, especially the younger ones still defining themselves. "When I came out, I resolved to live openly as a gay person," he stated. He feels his continuing to do so demonstrates how it can be done happily.

The start of his gay activism was a conversation with former Peninsulan Jim Mayer. They agreed that an organization of gay people was needed. Hence the Peninsula Business Guild was born, since altering slightly to be the Peninsula Business and Professional Association.

But it is with the Bay Area Municipal Elections Committee and the ELLIPSE AIDS Care Facility with which Gordon is most closely associated in the public mind. Because he was president of BAYMEC in its first year, many assume Gordon was the founder. He demurs on that.

Gordon characterizes BAYMEC as "opening doors, opening minds, making politicians aware of the presence and influence of the gay community." He sees the political group's future as "more money raising, plus movement on the issues."

When the AIDS impact really began to be felt on the Peninsula, Gordon realized that governmental means alone were not enough to cope with all the problems. He saw that a private, nonprofit group was needed to meet some of the needs and proceeded to organize one. Pointing out that ELLIPSE has been going less than a year, Gordon said, "It has been an amazing experience. The growth is much faster than anyone had expected. Much has been accomplished."

The opening of the Care Facility on Woodside Road is the most concrete evidence, but Gordon explains that the growth of public consciousness has also been phenomenal.

Gordon disavows any political ambitions for himself.

Also very supportive has been his mate of five years Dr. Dennis McShane, Redwood City physician and past-president of the Bay Area Physicians for Human

(Continued on page 23)

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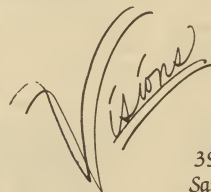


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Pulling Duty In A Strange Environment

OSSIFIED TETRA-CREPUSCULE! (A Shelacked Nose)

If I never see another shot of Schnapps, it will be too soon. Come to think of it, there are several (dozens?) who are vowing to give their collective livers a much needed rest! Four nights of pouring/drinking/buying one-upmanship is almost more than a hepatic organ can tolerate—you notice I said "almost." Tomorrow, alas, is another day!

The Bartender Turn-A-Bout night among Big Mama's, Revol, Town & Country, and Turf Club seemed more like a fortnight rather than just a mere four nights. And if there's any Schnapps left at any of those places it's a miracle.

It all started last Monday night and the scenario was identical at all four establishments. A "guest" bartender was introduced, given brief instructions on in-house procedures, and directed to work for 15 minutes—at least that's how the script read. Somehow the time slots became altered depending upon the whim of the managers and the impulses of the customers. As if "pulling duty in a strange environment" wasn't awkward enough, it seemed that some (of us) went out of the way to make it more difficult and demanding on the "pour" interloper.

"I want the home-based bartender to step aside, and I'm setting up the house with all drinks poured—no upside-down glasses."

"I'm buying the entire place a shot of Schnapps, any flavor you want as long as it's root beer."

"Faster, faster, faster!"

"It's so-and-so's turn to buy a round, so start pouring."

Just some examples of the kinds of goings' on that went on. And was it just a coincidence that each host bar had a broken blender?

At Big Mama's, with Keith maintaining some kind of decorum, the guest workers were: from Revol, Steve and Brandon; from Town & Country, James and Sam; from Turf Club, Kevin and Keith. At Town & Country, with Jim providing the sanity, were: from Big Mama's, Eddie and Michael; from Revol, Steve and Jim (Cakes); from Turf Club, Michelle and Keith.

At the Turf Club, with "Uncle" Bob offering the gentility, were: from Big Mama's, Michael and Keith; from Revol, Steve and Cakes; from Town & Country, Sam and Jim. And the finale at Revol, with Brandon adding the

sedateness, were: from Big Mama's, Eddie and Richard (Rick "Cupcakes"); from Town & Country Sam and Kim; from Turf Club, Kevin and "Uncle" Bob.

At each of the four bars donations were requested to purchase fruit drinks for Nurse Patty Rose's walk across Death Valley. A total of \$270.40 was raised (A big hug to "Uncle" Bob for matching the donations from the Turf Club clientele). Seven cases of drinks were purchased (at \$7.95 each), totaling \$55.65. The remaining \$214.75 was donated to East Bay Assistance Fund.

Patty told me that she sincerely thanks everyone who participated in the funding of her soft drinks, and any unused cans would be donated to the AIDS Food Bank.

Congratulations (condolences?) to all who participated. I think it was a fun four nights—after the first "root beer" on Monday, things became a little fuzzy. Would that I had stock in the aspirin/seltzer business on Friday morning!

ALTURISTIC GESTICATION (A Gramercy Nose)

Eddie Paulson is already putting the receipts from his latest auction to work—even though all checks haven't cleared. (Hint, Hint!) He is purchasing three microwave ovens for Fairmont Hospital AIDS Ward, but not for permanent placement there. Instead, they will be used on a "loan" basis. When a patient is released from the hospital, he/she may borrow one of the microwaves for as long as he/she needs it. When the patient no longer has use of the microwave it will be returned to the AIDS Ward for recycling, as it were.

Also, he is purchasing a new VCR and color TV for the second AIDS Ward at Fairmont. In addition, he has presented the AIDS Food Bank with \$500 with which to purchase fresh meats, to be kept frozen until needed.

The nurses on the AIDS Wards need a computer, and they have mentioned this exigency to Eddie. "Nez, I need a favor. Surely there must be someone out there in the community who could get us a good deal on a computer—maybe even donate one. Could you put in a plug in your column? If someone does have access to a source, they may call me at Big Mama's (881-9310) or at my home (538-3913). I really do appreciate any help someone can give."

OLLA-PODRIDA (A Farrago Nose)

Think "Baker's Dozen." Revol is celebrating the anniversary between number 12 and 14. It will be a two-day event, Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 15 and 16. E.C. Scott will be entertaining on one of the evenings, so check the posters for details. I'm sure that Steve has several (like 13?) surprises planned for the "Baker's Dozen Anniversary."

Congratulations to the Spoiled Brat. The judging committee of the Hayward Zucchini Festival awarded the Brat first-place prizes for the best decorations and the best hors d'oeuvres, in a recent competition among many bars and restaurants in Hayward. 'Twas quite a nice write-up in the local paper about the Brat's participation in the festival, along with its partaking in the recent AIDS Food Bank auction. It's always nice to have good "vibes" from the gay community to the straight community.

Also, the Brat is expanding its kitchen action. Yes, it does have a full-fledged Pullman kitchen. Single-entree selections are now being served Sunday through Thursday—at quite reasonable prices. I was informed that all recipes are tasted, re-tasted, and tasted again, to get the exact Brat quality upon which Rob insists.

Felicitations to Gilbert and Georgia, Mr. Cowboy and Miss Cowgirl of Alameda County, respectively. They were elected at a function at Paradise last Sunday.

Performing in front of a huge rainbow flag, and doing sets entitled Today, Yesterday, Tonight, and Tomorrow, John Lusk, Pamela Brooks, and Tom Anderson presented their That's What Friends Are For musical revue at Big Mama's last Sunday evening. It was poignant, moving, and very touching. A "tip" of Nez's nose for their offering of talents to raise money for EBAF. A percentage of the bar was also donated, and EBAF thanks Z.J. for that, too.

A report from the treasurer of EBAF reveals that during the month of July, a total of \$467.57 was received via donations. The amount disbursed in assistance was a whopping \$2,012.13. With statistics such as these, it's painfully obvious that the "well could very well run dry." Any change, spare or otherwise, is always welcomed at EBAF. (The \$214.75 from the bar Turn-A-Bout nights will be reflected in the August financial report.)

Lady Lennie and Company will be hosting a benefit for EBAF, at Cables Reef on Saturday, Oct. 3, from 6 p.m. to 2 a.m. The affair



Patty Rose received assistance from the EBAF for her next Death Valley AIDS walk. (Photo: Mick Hicks)

will include entertainment and buffet.

Upcoming Sunday cabaret performances at Big Mama's include: Aug. 16, Scott Johnson /Menage, an octet from the Gay/Lesbian Chorus of San Francisco; Aug. 23, Men About Town, the pops group from the Gay Men's Chorus; and Sept. 13, Dell Madill & Mercy Oria, old favorites with some new surprises. All performances start at 6 p.m., and there is no cover charge.

Don't forget A Night of

Moonlite Elegance, a cruise on the bay coming up on Saturday, Aug. 22. The boat loads at 6:30 p.m., and sails off into the sunset at 7 p.m. Boarding passes are \$30 per person and may be purchased at the Paradise or from Ms. Montoya (568-3302). Proceeds go to ISE, Inc., B.A.S.H., Inc., and In-Memory Foundation, Inc.

It's not so much that you can't win, or even break even. What's important is, you can't even quit the game! I smile at that! Love, ●

Nez

Marin AIDS Residence Survey

An AIDS planning group in Marin County is trying to determine how many people would be interested in living in a proposed Marin County AIDS residence. People with AIDS or ARC who currently live in Marin County, or who have left Marin County in order to obtain medical or housing services, are asked to participate in a housing survey. To participate in the survey, please call the Marin Housing Center at (415) 457-2114 and ask for Chris Harris. To protect the anonymity of those who respond, the survey will not collect any personal information. ●

San Mateo County Coordinates Services

The first meeting of the San Mateo AIDS Services Coordinating Council was held on July 2, in Redwood City. The council is made up of representatives of counseling service agencies throughout the country who have come together to coordinate and expand services for AIDS/ARC and HIV positive individuals, family and friends.

The council has established five sub-committees to address needs and services for minorities, youth, HIV drug users, and mental health populations and to create a community resource panel designed to increase community awareness of service availability and needs. Among other goals, the council hopes to identify gaps in services and to attract funding to meet identified service needs, to train and support counseling professionals, and to increase awareness of services availability at the community level.

The council is currently soliciting membership for the subcommittees, in particular for I.V. drug users and minorities target groups. Interested individuals or those wishing more information should contact Dr. Michael O'Connor, council chair at (415) 366-8408. ●

Gay City — Gay Paper. Bay Area Reporter

Newsweek

(Continued from page 19)

mate in Vacaville, Bruce Savan, 59, a New York agent whose clients included Elvis Presley and Carol Burnett, and Gary Wiggs, 38, an administrative law judge in Seattle.

The 302 people in this gallery are only a fraction of the 4,000 known so far to have died during the past year. "But taken together," Newsweek says, "they form a mosaic portrait of the face of AIDS in America." The oldest is a widow of 87 and the youngest an infant of one year.

Much of the research for this article was done in San Francisco. Tracking down the information and photos involved extensive use of Bay Area Reporter's files. B.A.R. photographer Rink is credited by Newsweek as a source for many of the photos.

In the month of July, San Francisco reported 143 new cases of AIDS. This is almost a 50 percent increase from June.

In the United States the total number of AIDS cases now stands at 39,263. Before this week ends the number will be over 40,000. ●

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Missouri

(Continued from page 1)

The delaying action stunned Rear Admiral Robert L. Toney, commander of the San Francisco naval base. He told the press after the vote that it would be difficult for the Navy to agree to a tougher standard that would essentially bind the Navy to the spirit, if not the letter, of local laws.

The controversy erupted during a Board of Supervisors meeting in which Missouri supporters believed they had mustered six votes to approve the plan, a bare majority of the board.

LOCAL VS. FEDERAL LAW

The homeporting of the Missouri, already the target of criticism from environmentalists and peace activists, has also become an issue for the gay community because of allegations that the Navy's civilian hiring practices obstruct employment of lesbians and gay men.

After a series of arduous meetings and nine-and-one-half hours of testimony at a public hearing, Britt, a Missouri opponent, had introduced a proposed contract change that he says required the Navy to abide by local laws prohibiting discrimination against gay people and people who have AIDS or ARC. Britt's proposal specified city statutes on sexual orientation discrimination be observed by the Navy.

His proposal was cosponsored by a majority of board members including Molinari who, as chairman of the joint Finance and Land Use committees, is playing a key role in the formulation of the agreement with the Navy.

The Britt amendment drew instant flak from the mayor's office, which resolutely parroted the Navy's claims that there is no discrimination under existing military policy. According to deputy mayor Jim Lazarus, the Navy refused to accept the new wording because it violated constitutional principles that give the federal government supremacy over local laws. Lazarus said it would take an act of Congress before Britt's amendment could go into effect.

To break the impasse, Molinari offered a substitute amendment that had been drafted by the mayor's office. It contained general assurances that the Navy would not consider a person's sexual orientation in assessing employability. It further stated that AIDS and ARC would be treated "solely as a medical condition." The amendment referred to several federal antidiscrimination laws, none of which protect gay people specifically.

Navy officials had accepted these changes. But Britt and Molinari had never discussed the new language, and Britt was vituperative when he saw the revised amendment.

"I rise with a high degree of anger," Britt began. He called the compromise proposal "unbelievable" and "hypocrisy."

"This is the first time in my eight years on the board," Britt said, "that this board has acted to weaken protections for lesbians and gay men."

Earlier, Molinari had tried to build support for the revisions by pointing out that no other city in the country which bases a Navy fleet made any reference in city contracts to protections for the gay community. But Britt would not be mollified. "It offends me that a member of the board would equate this memorandum of understanding with conditions



Sup. Bill Maher. (Photo: Rink)

in Norfolk (Virginia) or Corpus Christi (Texas)," Britt said to his political ally.

"I do not want to sit on a board that seeks to please the mayor, or the Navy or anyone else," He said any other contractor doing business with the city would have to comply with these civil rights ordinances, and so should the Navy.

He also ridiculed the suggested language on AIDS and ARC, noting that under the federal administration "Ed Meese is going to decide" how AIDS is treated as a medical condition.

Britt concluded his impassioned plea saying that it would be better to drop the antidiscrimination clause than include one that is a sham. "Nothing is better than hypocrisy and this language

is supremely hypocritical. Please don't let this board go on record with this hypocritical language," Britt said.

On behalf of the gay and lesbian community he demanded, "We have a right to expect every member of the Board of Supervisors to stand by us."

CHANGED VOTES

The passion underlying Britt's remarks had an immediate effect. Sup. Doris Ward, who offered additional amendments on environmental and neighborhood concerns, called for a two-week postponement to reconsider the agreement.

Sups. Bill Maher and Willie Kennedy endorsed the delay. Maher announced he had been prepared to vote in favor of the Missouri, but reversed himself after hearing Britt speak. "If we don't stand up for our gay and lesbian brothers and sisters, no one is going to," Maher said.

Sup. Richard Hongisto said Britt's remarks "were well-placed."

And Molinari was also quickly persuaded, saying, "I am impressed by what Sup. Britt had to say." He acknowledged "blame and responsibility" for not consulting him on the revised draft of the antidiscrimination policy and said he would go back to the drawing board with other members of the board to clarify in the agreement "language this board can be comfortable with."

Molinari added that while he remained committed to bringing the Missouri to the Bay Area, he was also committed to seeing "that the rights of all San Franciscans—all San Franciscans—are assured in the memorandum of understanding. I hope we can resolve this issue and then argue the merits of whether homeporting should continue," he said.

Two dissenting voices were heard from Sups. Jim Gonzalez and Tom Hsieh, both of whom indicated their support for the homeporting agreement and expressed frustration that the debate had been delayed once again. "We're delaying the debate because we don't want to step on anybody's toes," Gonzalez said. He added that no one was watching out for the blue collar workers who need new job opportunities in the shipyard industries.

After the meeting concluded, Britt and Molinari issued a joint statement that showed cooler heads were talking again. They announced they would be meeting in the next few days to determine the best language to insure no discrimination against lesbians or gay men in the homeporting of the Missouri.

Although Molinari supports the homeporting and Britt is in opposition, they said, both are in total agreement that there be no discrimination of any kind in San Francisco.

It remained uncertain whether it is possible to draft a stronger policy that is also acceptable to the Navy. Admiral Toney said in his view "the Navy has gone the extra mile." He said it would be difficult for the Navy to accept language that was stronger than what had been in the proposal that the board repudiated. ●

Rich Gordon

(Continued from page 21)

Rights. "We share common values about being open," Gordon affirmed.

How would he advise gay men and women considering gay activism? "Get into it!" Gordon answered immediately. He explained that his conviction on the value of activism was based on the gay community's response to the AIDS crisis.

On being truly involved in one's community, Gordon sees the reward this way: "It can be very affirming, truly fulfilling." ●

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THIS

FRIDAY 7

- **It's Fascination!**: stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$10. Written and directed by Dan Fludd, music and lyrics by Dan Fludd and Michael Green, featuring Luenell Campbell, Dan Fludd, Sam Gray, Mark Haglock, Jorge Hernandez, Cindy Herron, Scott Johnson, Amanda Moody, Lynn Morrow, Michelle Newman, Manny Saiz, Marty Schimerlik, Juan Stewart, and Joseph Taro. Call 282-3409 for more information and reservations; call 861-5079 to charge by phone.
- **Last Call For Murder**: stage performance, The Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$5. The Playwright's Workshop at Theatre Rhinoceros presents a faced-paced comic mystery by Tom W. Kelly.
- **Big On Broadway**: the Vocal Minority presents Broadway favorites, Intersection Theatre, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$7. Featuring Bob Bauer and his trio. Tickets at Headlines or by calling 431-4849.
- **Single Family Detached**: stage performance, Los Altos Conservatory Theatre, Foothill College, Los Altos Hills, 8 PM, \$6.50 and \$8.50. Stephen Westfall's drama of a man's secret affair with his young colleague as part of the Performance Alliance '87 Festival. Call 948-4444 for tickets.
- **Boats**: stage performance, Studio Eremos at Project Artaud, 401 Alabama St., S.F., 8 PM, \$8. A dark family drama of obsession, delusion, sexual frustration, and unrequited love, written by Joe Besecker, directed by Marcus Stern. Call 626-6715 for reservations.
- **Monica Grant**: comedy cabaret, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 8-10 PM, free.
- **Canyon Sam**: slide show and talk on China and Tibet, Sisterspirit Coffeehouse, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, doors open 8 PM, talk begins 8:30 PM, \$3-\$7 sliding scale.
- **Bay Area Women's Freeform Wrestling Association**: third annual tournament, Tamalpais High School, Miller Ave. and Camino Alto, Mill Valley, 7:30 PM. Not what you see on TV! Call 548-3496 or 236-3622 for more information.
- **Citizens For Medical Justice and National March on Washington**: benefit party, S.F. Eagle, 12th and Harrison, S.F., 8-11 PM, \$5-\$10. Pray For Rain, Naked Into, Danny Williams, Pat Norman, Scarlot Harlot with John Belskus and Terry Beswick, and the West Coast premiere of The Red Spot Outdoor Slide Theatre.
- **Parlez-vous français?** Si oui, venez à nos réunions amicales le premier vendredi soir de chaque mois à 8h. La bienvenue à tout niveau! La fête du 7 août sera chez John. Pour de plus amples renseignements, appelez-le au 346-33-30.
- **Low-Impact Aerobics**: Amelia's, 647 Valencia St., S.F., 6-7 PM, \$4.

SATURDAY 8

- **It's Fascination!**: stage performance (see Friday for details).
- **Last Call For Murder**: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Single Family Detached**: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Big On Broadway**: the Vocal Minority present Broadway favorites, \$8. (see Friday listing for details).
- **Boats**: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Ten From the Heart**: tenth anniversary of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, Green Room, War Memorial and Performing Arts Center, 401 Van Ness Ave., S.F., 8 PM, \$25. Light buffet, dancing, and reminiscences. Call 861-6932 for reservations.
- **AIDS/ARC Fundraising Auction**: sponsored by Dignity San Francisco, Live Oak School, Diamond St., across from Most Holy Redeemer Church, S.F., 5 PM, \$3. Proceeds donated to Project Open Hand.
- **Denver Via Rio**: fundraiser to help finance trip to first national gay soccer tournament for the San Francisco Spikes, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 2-6 PM, \$5. Live music (Keystroke), door prizes, 75 cent beer. Call 821-4248 for more information.
- **Midgett's Birthday Party**: potluck and BYOB, 437 Webster St., S.F., 5-11:30 PM. Call 864-0876 to RSVP.
- **Girth and Mirth Club**: social meeting and potluck, 3744 16th St., No. 3, S.F., 7:30 PM. Bring a dish for at least 10 people. Call 820-2597 or 552-1143 for more information.
- **EastBay FrontRunners**: Pt. Pinole run. Take I-80 north to Hilltop Dr. and go west past mall. Turn right on San Pablo Ave. and go left where indicated and stay on road to Pt. Pinole Park. Meet at parking road at 9:30 AM. Call 261-3246 for more information.
- **San Francisco Hiking Club**: Big Basin Redwoods State Park. Meet at 8 AM under the big Safeway sign at Market and Dolores, S.F. Moderately difficult 10-12 mile loop from park headquarters. Bring lunch and water.

- **S.F. Flag Corps**: benefit garage sale, 33 Henry St. (between Noe and Sanchez), S.F., 9 AM-5 PM.
- **One-Day Co-ed Self-Defense Class**: presented by the UCSF Police Dept. Call 824-9474 for more information.
- **San Francisco FrontRunners**: Meet at Stow Lake Boathouse in Golden Gate Park, S.F., at 9 AM. No-host brunch follows; beginners welcome. Call 647-3227 or 337-8704 for more information.

SUNDAY 9

- **Who's Afraid of Box Office Poison?**: stage performance, Lipp's, 201 9th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$5. Starring Miss X, Phillip R. Ford, Tippi, Phil Mangano, Alexis A-Go-Go, Spider, and Doris Fish. Includes The Incredible Two-Headed Martha in "The Bit," Miss X Sings, and Phillip R. Ford's Hello Graceland Hello.
- **It's Fascination!**: stage performance (see Friday listing for details). This performance will be a benefit for the S.F. Band Foundation.
- **Gwen Avery and Friends**: music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 8-11 PM, \$5.
- **Brazilian Beat**: music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 4-8 PM, \$5. Brazilian music with Chalo Eduardo.
- **Lee Scarborough**: music, The Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., 5 PM, \$5. Showtunes and ballads.
- **Weston McGowen**: music, The Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5.



Davidson Lloyd (top) and Tom Keegan bring New Vaudeville to Theatre Rhino beginning Aug. 13 (Photo: J. Moore)

WEEK



Phillip R. Ford will stop at nothing in *Who's Afraid of Box Office Poison* at Lipps Aug. 9 (Photo: J. Edwards)

• **National March on Washington and the Names Project:** office opening, 2362 Market St., S.F., 7-10 PM, \$5-\$25 sliding scale. Music, comedy, guest speakers, and special viewing of the Names Project banners. Call 8611-5536 or 863-5511 for more information.

• **S.F. Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade and Celebration Committee:** general membership meeting, 1350 Waller St., S.F., 5 PM. Co-chair nominations for fiscal 1988 will be accepted, voting will occur Sept. 13.

• **S.F. Slightly Older Lesbians:** social/discussion potluck, 6:30 PM. Call 647-0413 for more information.

• **San Francisco FrontRunners:** Russian River run following a Russian River weekend. Call 922-1435 for details on accommodations. Others meet at the Safeway parking lot at Church and Market at 8:30 AM for carpooling.

• **Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders:** men's brunch and games, Francis of Assisi Community Center, 145 Guerrero St., S.F., noon to 3 PM, bring food to share. Call 626-7000 for more information.

• **Fraternal Order of Gays:** game afternoon, FOG House, 304 Gold Mine Dr., S.F., 2 PM. Call 641-0999 for more information.

• **High Tech Gays:** picnic at Stevens Creek Park, noon to 6 PM. Bring a side dish to share and something to cook on the grill. Utensils, charcoal, ice, volleyball, and horseshoes provided. Call 964-4171 or (408) 255-6128 for more information.

• **Integrity:** high mass for the Feast of St. Mary the Virgin, Mother of our Savior, St. John's Church, 1661 15th St., S.F., 5:30 PM.

• **Affirmation:** gay and lesbian Mormons, San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 7 PM. Call 641-4554 for more information.

• **San Francisco MCC:** worship and communion services, 10:30 AM and 7 PM, 150 Eureka St., S.F. Childcare and signing provided at the morning service. Call 863-4434 for more information.

• **Radiant Light Ministries:** Sunday celebration of love and life, Swedish American Hall, 2174 Market St., S.F., 10 AM. Call 861-1667 for more information.

• **New Life MCC:** worship and communion service, 1823 9th St., Berkeley, 5 PM. Call 843-9355 for more information.

• **Calvary MCC:** worship service, 2124 Brewster Ave., Redwood City, 6 PM. Call 368-0188 for more information.

• **MCC of the Redwoods:** worship and communion service, Olive and Throckmorton Sts., Mill Valley, 10:45 AM. Call 388-2315 for more information.

• **Latter-Day Saints:** sacrament meeting for lesbians and gays and their friends, Sacramento Lambda Community Center, 1931 L St., Sacramento, 1 PM. Conducted by the Sacramento Family of the Restoration Church of Jesus Christ. Call (916) 447-5755 for more information.

• **Golden Gate MCC:** Sunday worship services, 48 Belcher St. (between 14th St. and Duboce), S.F., 12:30 PM, 7 PM. Call 474-4848 for details.

• **Holy Trinity Church:** meets at the Billy DeFrank Community Center, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, 10 AM to noon.

MONDAY 10

• **El Grupo Social:** gay Spanish club summer social, Hayward. Call 538-4980, 776-4759, or 526-8912 for more information.

• **S.F. Jacks:** dance night, 890 Folsom St., S.F., doors open 7:30-8:30 PM, \$6.

• **Leathermen's/SM Support Group:** meeting, Room 21, San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Call 931-6160 for more information.

• **AIDS Project of the East Bay:** parents and family support group, 6-8 PM. Call 420-8181 for more information.

• **AIDS Project of the East Bay:** grief support group. Call 420-8181 for more information.

• **Spirituality for Recovering Women:** support group, 3017 Geary Blvd., S.F., 7-8:30 PM, sliding scale. Call 239-4965 for more information.

TUESDAY 11

• **Ogie Yocha:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 10 PM, \$2.

• **Parenting In The First Year:** panel presentation, Women's Building, 3543 18th St., S.F., 7-9 PM, \$1-\$5 sliding scale (no one turned away for lack of funds). Childcare available. Presented by Lyon Martin Women's Health Services and the Lesbian Rights Project. Call 641-0220 for more information.

• **Evening Group Orientation:** for people with AIDS or ARC, San Francisco AIDS Foundation, 333 Valencia St., 4th floor, S.F., free. Assistance in interpreting financial benefit systems, applying for government assistance programs, and information on social service agencies and discounts available. Call 864-4376 to reserve a space.

WEDNESDAY 12

• **Comedy Plus:** open stage, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9 PM, \$2. Benefit performance for the Theatre Rhino production of *Pulp and Circumstance* with Karen Ripley, Doug Holsclaw, Danny Williams, Sandy Van, Maureen Brownsey, Pam Gray, and the cast.

• **Kat 'n' Jo:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7-9 PM, free. Folk and blues.

• **Federal Lesbians and Gays:** meeting, Rooney's, 22 9th St., S.F., 6 PM, \$2. Rev. Robert Cromey will speak. No-host bar, free buffet. Bring a magazine for people with AIDS. Call 695-9174 for more information.

• **Ballroom Dance:** beginning instruction for lesbians and gay men, 3435 Army St., Studio 204, S.F., 8-9 PM, \$1. Call 587-0844 for more information.

• **Wednesday Matinee:** sponsored by Operation Concern's Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders and North of Market Senior Services, 333 Turk St., S.F., 2:15-4 PM. Movies, games, and refreshments. Call 626-7000 for more information.

• **Women's Writer's Workshop:** for older lesbians (60+) and their friends, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 6-8 PM. Sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders. Call 626-7000 for more information.

THURSDAY 13

• **Keegan and Lloyd:** stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$10. Two works in a New Vaudeville style will be performed by the dazzling duo.

• **Kari Hirst, Cathy Sorbo, Sandy Van, and Linda Hill:** comedy, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9 PM, free.

• **Tuffy Eldridge:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7-9 PM, free.

• **Single Family Detached:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

• **S.F. Bay Area Gay and Lesbian Historical Society:** visiting scholar series, Women's Building, 3543 18th St., S.F., 7:30 PM, \$5. Rob Tielman, author of *Homosexuality in the Netherlands*, will speak.

• **Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders:** older gay men's friendship group (60+), Friendship Room, 711 Eddy St., S.F., 2:45 PM. Call 626-7000 for more information.

• **Black and White Men Together:** gathering, 1350 Waller St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Call 931-BWMT for more information.

• **San Francisco FrontRunners:** meet at McLaren Lodge in Golden Gate Park, S.F., at 6:30 PM. No-host dinner follows, beginners welcome. Call 647-3227 or 337-8704 for more information.

The Bay Area Reporter welcomes organizations, businesses, and individuals to submit items for its weekly calendar. Placement in the calendar is free and the sole responsibility of the editors. Deadline: 5 PM on Thursdays.

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When A Star Dies Michael Bennett's Great Deception



Michael Bennett in better days

(Photo: S. Warren)

by Wendell Ricketts

When New York City Ballet dancer Joseph Duell jumped to his death in Manhattan two Springs ago, dance writer Deborah Jowitz eulogized him in the *Village Voice*. In her brief obituary, Jowitz recounted the honors that had been heaped upon Duell during his career. She recalled his expansive artistic gift, his sensitivity, his utter lack of arrogance. Everyone, Jowitz suggested, seemed to love Joe Duell.

But there was evidently one person, Jowitz noted with deliberate irony, who did not love Joseph Duell. And that was Duell himself. To Jowitz's mind, it was an unloving and pitiless "dark side" that forced Duell out the window of his fifth-floor apartment one Sunday morning.

While researching this piece on the life of Michael Bennett at the Library for the Performing Arts at Lincoln Center, I happened upon a *Dance* magazine feature written about Duell only months before his suicide. Accompanying the article was a stunning photograph of Duell. In it, Duell had posed as *Dance* magazine so often poses dancers: naked from the waist up, arms folded across his chest. Incandescent and porcelain, and at the same time oddly frail, Duell had almost smiled.

That photo and Jowitz's comment on Duell's life haunted me as I went through the daunting collection of clippings, photos, programs, and other memorabilia of Michael Bennett's astonishing career. Almost from the moment Bennett set foot on Broadway, it appeared, he had been able to do no wrong. His first Broadway offering, for example, *A Joyful Noise*, closed in 1966 after only 12 performances, but Bennett's choreography nevertheless brought him his first Tony award nomination.

After *A Joyful Noise*, Bennett choreographed, directed, or stag-

ed *Henry, Sweet Henry, Promises, Promises, Coco, Company, Follies, Twigs, God's Favorite, Seesaw, A Chorus Line, Ballroom, and Dreamgirls*. He was directing Tim Rice's *Chess* when he learned he had AIDS and withdrew from the production.

Bennett was born in Buffalo, New York, the only child of Salvatore DiFiglia and his German-Jewish wife, Helen. His parents enrolled him in dance classes when he was three and, over the subsequent nine years, Bennett frequently performed in the variety shows produced by Mrs. John Dunn's "Little Stars of Tomorrow." He attended Buffalo's Central High School for Boys, a technical school, where he majored in math and, as he later admitted, did everything he could think of to turn Central High into a version of the High School for the Performing Arts.

Bennett's memories of Buffalo may have found expression in the words of the *Chorus Line* dancer who reveals that, as an unhappy teenager there, he had considered suicide. "But then I realized," he says, "that in Buffalo, suicide is redundant." As an adult, Bennett claimed that he had grown to love Buffalo, "because it pushed me out."

By the time Bennett died, he had won eight Tony awards and been nominated for every show he touched. Bennett's accomplishments were universally hailed, and seldom rivalled.

But there was one thing Bennett did not manage to accomplish in his lifetime, and that was to feel comfortable enough about being gay to let that fact be known. Indeed, according to those who knew him, and judging from Bennett's comments in the interviews he gave rather freely throughout his career, he took elaborate pains to ensure that "the public" never suspected he was gay. When he was diagnosed with AIDS in December, 1985,

Bennett carefully disguised that fact as well. In all of these efforts, Bennett was an agile liar.

In late 1976, as *Chorus Line* fever swept the country, Bennett married Donna McKechnie in Paris. McKechnie, whom Bennett had known since their days together in the chorus, had sparked in other Bennett productions, and it was for her that Bennett created "Music and the Mirror," a jazzy, head-snapped-back number Bennett once described as "choreographed whiplash." Not surprisingly, "Mirror" became McKechnie's signature piece, an association she both embraced and resented, just as Bennett embraced and resented being known the world over as "that guy who did *Chorus Line*."

That theirs was a marriage of convenience is not to say it was a marriage of comfort. Bennett and McKechnie were separated after barely three months. Nonetheless, their courtship and marriage were pure Fairy Tale Romance to the press. Bennett assisted them in that pretense by telling interviewers such things as, "When all your dreams come true and you're married to the person you love most in the world — everything becomes overwhelming. You want to talk about God being good? He gave me Donna to fulfill my dancing." The gossip columnists gobbled it up, gleefully reporting each time McKechnie was sighted riding in Bennett's 1965 Rolls Royce.

After their divorce, Bennett rhapsodized about the kind of woman he was attracted to, about the way he "couldn't help" falling in love with his leading ladies. In 1980, New York Daily News columnist Liz Smith reported that Bennett had appeared at a black-tie affair with Sabine Cassell, wife of French actor Jean-Pierre Cassell, on his arm. "At first," Smith reported, Ben-



Michael Bennett

(Photo: S. Warren)

nett "introduced the lovely lady as 'my wife.' But pressed further, Bennett said, 'Actually, she'll become my wife after she gets her divorce.'"

Despite these contrivances, the comment I heard over and over in New York was, "Everyone knew that Michael was gay." Well, everyone didn't, and Bennett worked hard to keep it that way. And if "everyone" knew, they were the same "everyone" who knew that Rock Hudson was gay and that Liberace and little Scotty were more than business partners. In other words, not my parents, who are a kind of barometer of middle America and, I'll wager, not yours.

In January of 1986, when Bennett withdrew from *Chess*, he immediately began telling interviewers that he suffered from stress-related angina (a painful condition caused by an insufficient flow of blood to the heart). New York Post columnist Cindy

Adams interviewed Bennett in March and noted, "To me, who obviously knows nothing, he looked healthy. So why couldn't he still work nicely and sedately on the show?" Whether arch or ingenuous, one cannot tell, but her question allowed Bennett to explain, as he did in every subsequent interview until his death 16 months later, "I'm not one to sit quietly in the back of a theater. I have to dance. I can't dance right now and I won't just sit and direct. I'm not the type."

That same month Liz Smith oozed, "Dined with Michael Bennett at Diëche. He looks fabulous. He's treating himself with TLC and hoping to avoid open-heart surgery." When McKechnie rejoined the Schubert Theatre production of *Chorus Line* in September, she told the New York Post she'd recently visited Bennett and said, "Oh, yeah, Michael's fine. This was the

(Continued on page 39)

Artie Bressan: Only His Films Survive

by Steve Warren

Arthur J. Bressan, Jr. described himself as "one of the gay surviving filmmakers in America." Since July 28, only his films survive. Most of them are gay and admittedly autobiographical. Even the porno.

A combination 19th century Romantic and 1960s activist, he was caught up in the San Francisco scene from the late '60s through most of the '70s and never got it completely out of his system. Still, there was much of the native New Yorker about him.

Much of Artie's work was praiseworthy. *Abuse*, about a filmmaker's affair with the 14-year-old boy appearing in his documentary about child abuse, made its point—that the boy was better off being loved by a man than beaten by his parents—too powerfully for most audiences—gay or not—to want to deal with.

Bressan had the balls—or maybe he just couldn't help himself—to inject romance into fuckflicks. Even at the height of the casual sex phenomenon, and while he never judged those who just wanted to have fun, Bressan gave us characters who were looking for Mr. Right—or in one case, waiting for him to get out of jail. Check the video stores for *Passing Strangers* and *Forbidden Letters*, from his San Francisco period, and the later *Pleasure Beach, Juice*, and *Daddy Dearest*.

On the nongay side Bressan made *Thank You, Mr. President—The Press Conferences of John F. Kennedy*, which aired on PBS.

In 1977, when Anita Bryant inspired a record number of gays to come out of their closets and onto the streets, Bressan had camera crews in the streets recording gay

pride activities for the documentary *Gay USA*.

Artie's final film, made in 1985, was *Buddies*. Written in five days and shot in nine, it dealt, perhaps ironically, with AIDS. He may not have known how little time he had left, yet he felt an urgent need to make the first theatrical film about the disease. There was a lot of Bressan in the character of the dying PWA whose spirit liberated the guppies volunteer assigned to care for him.

Defending a nonexplicit masturbation scene in *Buddies*, Bressan said it enhanced the film's human dimension: "Disease doesn't happen to charts. It happens to people."

AIDS happened to Artie Bressan. He was 44.

A New Definition of High-Risk Group

by Joseph W. Bean

Community at Risk could be called *The AIDS Show: An Update*. It confronts people who have been inching toward "high-risk" status for a long time: the black community.

The narrative voice for *Community* is supplied by a woman health worker who identifies herself as a woman of color. She suspects something is awry since "the very people society wants to get rid of are getting this disease: gay men, IV drug users, and now black and Latin heterosexuals."

The health worker's point of view is not particularly prevalent in *Community*; it's just one position, one that does exist, and it belongs in this pastiche of opinions and information.

Among the other circumstances and points of view about AIDS in the black community presented by the show, some seemed to be easy listening for the black families seated around me. Others were jeered quite openly.

When a young black woman with a bisexual husband said the line, "We're in this tunnel, and I don't know if the light is in this world or the next," there were whispered amens all around me. When she said of her husband and his friends that they had "enjoyed living two lives. Now they can't do that. Now there's only AIDS," the amens became "tell'em, sister."

The bisexual husband, hurt by his wife's AIDS-related abortion, still didn't muster any shame for his lifestyle. Then, when he said fucking six guys in one night at the tubs was never satisfying, the whisperers gasped, and a mother hustled her two youngsters out a side door.

The play goes on: The next couple on stage is a mixed-race gay couple with AIDS. The lighter man—nonwhite, apparently—talks about gay culture, gay sexuality, and his feelings for his black lover. The audience snickers. He embraces his lover. Disgust and more giggles are passed around the row in front of me. The shock in the audience escalates to full-voiced groans when they kiss.

Still, by the time the black man can say his piece about his job,

his family, and his lover pulling him in three different directions, the audience is ready to give the couple a hearty round of applause. This is the first applause of the evening.

Scenes with a junkie and a whore blaming each other for their infection, a grandmother praying that her dying daughter's baby might be spared, and a pious, pigheaded black preacher follow. None of it is great drama, but every scene gets a definite reaction. Even though language like, "Have you ever fucked anyone in the ass?" chases a few family groups away, those who stay learn what they have not learned elsewhere, hear what they have not heard, and think about things they have shrunk from considering—until *Community at Risk*.

An especially poignant moment in the show came during the grandmother's scene with her former minister. She didn't want to go around the AIDS-o-

phobic church any more, she said, and be with the minister's crowd of "picture-hatted hypocrites." A woman almost directly in front of me moaned, and asked her husband, "Is this a picture hat?" He looked at her for a moment, then said, "No, dear, you're not a hypocrite." (It wasn't a picture hat. It was a straw cloche.)

Community at Risk is a powerful, even hart-hitting show. It gets a bit preachy at times, but no more than necessary. The play makes few concessions to the usual forms or functions of drama. It has a message, and it uses drama very well in shaping and delivering that message.

Playwright David Williams will surely be able to accept that *Community* is not the stuff great hits are made of, but the purpose of the project is to save lives. No doubt, it is doing that.

Gerald Reese, a newcomer to the Bay Area, is someone to watch. Since he directed *Comm-*

nity under the watchful eye of Stanley Williams, we can be fairly certain there will be more of Reese's work seen locally in the future. Williams, of course, is the artistic director of the Lorraine Hansberry Theatre. His place in *Community* is as representative of the Hansberry company, which joins The Bayview Hunters Point Foundation and the Multicultural Alliance for the Prevention of AIDS in producing the show.

The cast is good. A few performances even transcend the demands of the information-first script, but it would be unfair to single them out. Some of the technical problems—like lighting cues so slow they would have been funny in most shows—were annoying. But, with material this important, reaching an audience as much in need of it as the one *Community* addresses, and with the show moving from place to place to play on the audience's home ground, everything is excusable. Everyone connected

with this project is doing a hard job, and doing it well.

Actually, even if the target audience is black, straight, and uninformed, everyone could benefit from seeing this play. No excuses about not being black will do. *Community at Risk* proves an important point that we all need to recognize: The real high-risk group for AIDS infection is made up of everyone — regardless of age, sex, sexuality, or race — who stays uninformed.

Anyone who is in that high-risk group can stay after the performance and ask questions. Experts abound. The dynamic young therapist who conceived the project, Ed Morales, is on hand for some performances. Well-informed, concerned, gentle-minded people, eager to answer, are there for every performance. Go.

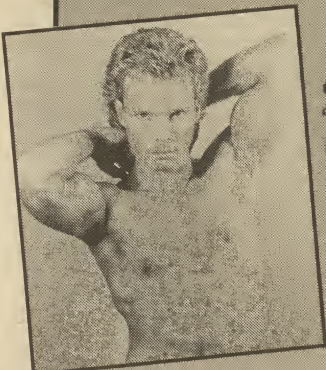
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At Trinity Episcopal Church,
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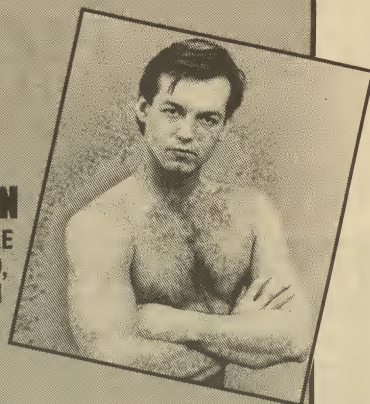
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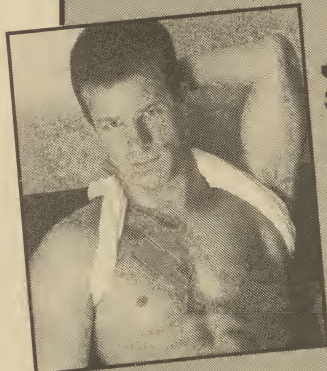
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The San Francisco Band Foundation is seeking a producer for its annual Christmas Gala and Dance — Along Nutcracker. The event is scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 20, at the Gift Center Pavilion.

The producer will coordinate all aspects of the production with the Foundation's Artistic Committee. Responsibilities will include budget development, advertising and marketing, and technical supervision, with "hands on" management at all levels of production. This festive annual event incorporates all performing units and serves as a major fundraiser for the Foundation. The board is offering 25% of the net profit to the producer.

All interested parties need to submit a resume to: Bradley Conlaine, c/o San Francisco Band Foundation, 1519 Mission St., San Francisco, CA 94103 no later than Monday, Aug. 17. For more information, call 621-5619 between noon and 6 p.m. daily. ●

Suicide is painless—at least that's what the folks at M*A*S*H try to tell us—but, with the current health crisis forcing many people to analyze the quality of living they can anticipate as their bodies succumb to a disease process, the act of taking one's own life is becoming, if you'll pardon the expression, a matter of grave concern. Lately, our culture has become more and more obsessed with the idea of suicide. Depressed teenagers hang themselves, corporations hoping to fend off unfriendly takeovers adopt poison pill policies—even the Hemlock Society has begun advertising its materials in this newspaper.

KEEPING THE FLAME

For many years I'd longed to see a production of Douglas Moore's *The Ballad of Baby Doe* and, in May, I finally caught two performances of this opera while spending a leisurely weekend in Long Beach aboard the R.M.S. *Queen Mary*. In its own curious way, the Long Beach area plays host to the memories of several classic death scenes. We all remember Shelley Winters swim-

Embracing Death



Mama McCourt (Geraldine Decker) blesses the marriage of her daughter (Ruth Ann Swenson) and Horace Tabor (Richard Fredericks) in the Long Beach Opera's production of Douglas Moore's *The Ballad of Baby Doe*.

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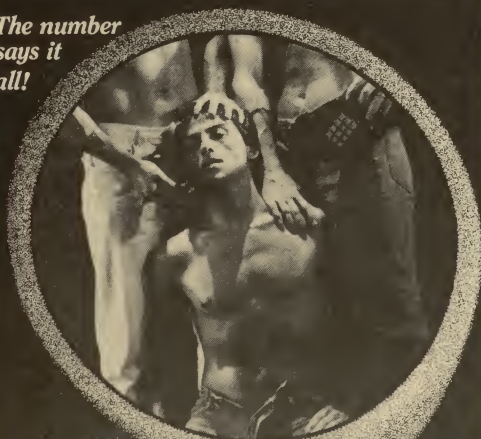
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ming through the boiler room of the S.S. *Poseidon* (which was modeled after the *Queen Mary*) but I wonder how many readers have ever visited the San Pedro Maritime Museum, which contains the scale model used in the filming of *The Poseidon Adventure* and two beautiful cutaway models (whose public rooms have been decorated in miniature according to their original designs) of the *Titanic* and the *Lusitania*.

The mere mention of these vessels' names evokes bittersweet memories similar to those which come to mind when discussing the curious fate of Elizabeth (Baby Doe) Tabor who, once widowed, clung to her husband's Matchless Mine in Leadville, Colorado and was found there, frozen to death, in March of 1935. Although the story of the love affair between Horace and Baby Doe Tabor is a classic tale of the American West, one of my hosts for my weekend in Long Beach had never heard of Baby Doe, the unsinkable Molly Brown, or any of the other folk heroes who emerged from the glory days of Denver society. "Hey, I grew up in California," she shrugged. "Like, y'know, we never learned about any of that stuff in school."

Thanks to Randall Behr's spirited baton and Peter Mark Schifter's stage direction, the Long Beach Opera presented a highly commendable version of Moore's melodramatic American opera. Richard Fredericks performed strongly as Horace Tabor, Michael Gallup's cameo appearance as William Jennings Bryan was appropriately full of bluster, and Seattle's Geraldine Decker made a lovably crass and fleshy Mama McCourt. The thrust stage of the Long Beach Convention Center's Terrace Theatre helped make this production a much more intimate experience than one would normally expect.

Although San Francisco Opera's Ruth Ann Swenson sang her first Baby Doe in this production with a great deal of charm and vocal strength, the evening really belonged to mezzo-soprano Joyce Castle, whose stern portrayal of the jilted Augusta Tabor ranks as one of this year's towering achievements in opera/musical theater. Castle—whose performance as Mr. Lovett in Sweeney Todd nearly topped Angela Lansbury's achievement—is the proud owner of one of

those rare and sorely underrated musical gifts: a genuinely operatic voice which is backed by profound dramatic skills and a superb sense of musicianship. I'd watch this incredible artist sing excerpts from the phone book any day.

ENGULFED BY THE FLAME

Although, by remaining true to the great love of her life, Baby Doe froze to death at the entrance to Leadville's Matchless Mine, most other women have a touch of pyromania in their hearts. Some like it hot—Brunnerhilde's not the only flamer in the operatic repertoire—and Bellini's Norma certainly knows the dramatic value of a good fire sale. After revealing to her fellow Druids that she has secretly borne two children created with the illicit sperm of a Roman proconsul, Norma ends her three hours of warbling religious and political nonsense by mounting a nearby pyre and sacrificing her less-than-virgin body to the gods.

'Hey, I grew up
in California . . .
We never learned
about any of that
stuff in school.'

In April, I traveled to Houston for the first acoustical test of the city's new Wortham Arts Center and a chance to hear Ghena Dimitrova's Norma. A year ago, when heard in recital in Houston's Jones Hall, Dimitrova was a knockout, belting out her arias with the force and intensity of a musical laser gun. However, when seen on stage in San Francisco's ill-fated production of Verdi's *Il Trovatore* and in Houston's version of Bellini's *Norma*, she left a noticeably different impression.

Partially due to the sheer lung power possessed by this soprano, the performance I attended may well be remembered as the loudest rendition of *Norma* I've ever heard in my life. Although Dimitrova managed some exquisitely shaded lyrical moments, her formidable voice seemed to challenge mezzo-soprano Ste-

fania Toczyska and tenor Giuseppe Giacomini to pull out all stops in their efforts to match the Bulgarian diva's dazzling display of decibels. Alas, Dimitrova is no great shakes as an actress and, on this occasion, could not nail down a high C to save her life.

Thus, despite Daniel Oren's animated conducting, this *Norma* became one of those performances which felt as if it would never end. While I enjoyed many of John Copley's directorial ideas, was drawn to the earthy look of Robin Don's sets (This production was rented from the Royal Opera at Covent Garden.), and admired the leathery, sci-fi beefcake appeal of some of Bob Ringwood's costumes for the male Druids, this particular performance never really caught fire. And, no matter how you cut it, without the excitement of a high priestess who can hit all her high notes, those Druids are left barking up the wrong tree.

A FLAMING GENIUS

While Baby Doe and Norma may have met noble deaths by clinging to heroic ideals, life was not as kind to Alan Turing, the British mathematician who helped crack the Nazi's code during World War II. Turing's homosexuality proved to be his ultimate downfall. As a historical lesson, Hugh Whitmore's *Breaking the Code* will not shock politically aware gays since it tells a tale of sexual embarrassment which has often been repeated in the military. But, in a time when heterosexual trysts in foreign embassies continue to endanger the national security, it's fascinating to see how the bureaucratic mind works when confronted with a genius who has done no wrong but whose lifestyle does not fit the textbook's guidelines for maintaining a security clearance.

For Turing, whose work in breaking the Nazi's code allowed him to achieve one of the greatest breakthroughs in military history, the loneliness of his work as a mathematician left few if any equally challenging heights for his brain to scale. His harassment at the hands of petty police officers becomes all the more poignant when one realizes how introverted and desperately innocent Turing must have been. "When there is no way for the brain to continue at harmony with the body, why not leave the body behind?" he muses, while biting into an apple which has rolled in a cyanide powder. "After all, this is merely a simple experiment to see if the mind can continue without the body."

Derek Jacobi's monumental performance as the stuttering protagonist will travel from London (where I saw it in June) to Broadway next year and, while this characterization of the painfully shy mathematician from Turing's childhood to his final moments is a triumph of theatrical technique, *Breaking the Code* poses several disturbing questions to its audience. Ironically, whether or not to commit suicide is the least disturbing of the lot. More to the point: Once you've accomplished something unique, savored the best there is, or achieved the impossible, what do you do for an encore?

If, because of the very uniqueness of your situation, you can't create new challenges for yourself, do you mark time until life is over or take action to end the meaningless years of waiting to die? It's the challenge faced by every overachiever. How I wish I knew the answer. ●

Inquiring Minds Want To Know

by Joseph W. Bean

Suppose you went to the Castro Theatre to see a special screening of *Blazing Saddles*, but instead of a film they gave you a performance of the Men's and Boy's Chorus of Grace Cathedral. Imagine that, and you have some slight idea of what it felt like when I went to see Fred Curchack's *Inquest for Freddy Chickan*.

Curchack is remarkable. He creates characterizations with a nearly magical ease, whether they are male or female, sane or way off the beam. Actually, *Inquest* doesn't give you much of a chance to see what Curchack would look like sane.

Even though there are credits for creative consulting (Arthur J. Pellman and Elsa Kvamme) and for artistic direction (Anita Correa), this crazy show is a Curchack event from the ground up. He wrote it. He performs, lights, and creates shadows for it. He created all the music, the masks, and the audio tapes. There is no question of whom to credit; what does he get credit for?

Inquest is not a play. It isn't performance art as we usually conceive the form. It certainly isn't a symphony or a sermon. Since I have no way to tell you what it is, let me tell you instead a few bits of what happens.

The performance begins in the lobby. At first Curchack, in the character of an indeterminate peace officer, seems to be something like a dell'arte player. He hams up a gumshoe/cop combination to the very brink of getting people on edge, pushing buttons on anyone in sight, even critics.

Soon though, the pitch and tone of the pushy character are really more like the stuff of street preachers. You know them, the ones who are going to see to it that you get saved even if it is against your devil-ridden will.

Once inside the theater — where few audience members arrive unscathed — you are prodded, goaded, dared, urged, and even invited to participate. "I see that typical, relaxed . . . complacent . . . tickle me, entertain me look on your faces," Curchack says. From there through the rest of the show good lines, great characters, super effects and total confusion reign.

As the private eye investigating the disappearance of Freddy Chickan, Curchack says to an audience participant, "I've been a



So this is the *Inquest for Freddy Chickan*?

dick too long to be jerked around by a broad like you."

On tape, where it is patently untrue: "I am real, I have a body, I am a totality, I am a hole . . ." Yes, that's hole, not whole, but you'll have to use your imagination — or see the show — to find out why.

As Freddy's agent: "If you don't participate, I'll just disappear." Which is our first clue to the mystery, but then we had forgotten the mystery by then. Oh, you want to know about the mystery, too? Freddy Chickan disappeared. How? To where? Who dunnit? Did anyone do anything?

As the film producer Freddy worked with: "You (the audience) have got all the money, power, and sex you can handle right in the palm of your hand." Ah, we have all the same things this sleazy Hollywood character "gave" to Freddy. Hmmm.

There is something like a plot, thin as air and far less noticeable, but it's there. Where the plot would be if this were a play, there is, er, an experience. *Inquest*, if it has to have a label, is a cleverly facilitated consciousness-raising session. It has a message, a point

of view, and plenty of verve, just no traditional theater-ness.

Finally, it boils down to one question, heard from the stage, which must have echoed in every sympathetic, participatory member of the audience: "If a star like Freddy Chickan isn't real, what about me?"

Of course, the unavoidable question — the one I haven't answered — is: Is *Inquest for Freddy Chickan* good? But that inspires another question: Good for whom? It's for you if you can enjoy brilliant play-acting without a play. It's for you if you want a thorough, experiential introduction to the basic ideas of human potential philosophy with a Gurdjieffian twist. It's for you if what you really want next time you go to the theater is something utterly different from anything you've ever seen on stage before.

The ruling of this court is that Freddy Chickan disappeared because of you, if you don't go see the inquest into his disappearance.

Inquest for Freddy Chickan
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- John Heard: *Cat People* (1982)
- William Hurt: *Altered States* (1980) and *Body Heat* (1981)
- Christopher Jones: *Three in the Attic* (1968)

- Burt Lancaster: *The Swimmer* (1968)
- John Laughlin: *Crimes of Passion* (1984)
- Rob Lowe: *Youngblood* (1986)
- Malcolm McDowell: *Caligula* (1980) and *Britannia Hospital* (1982)
- Rudolf Nureyev: *Valentino* (1977)
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- Jameson Parker: *The Bell Jar* (1979)
- Sean Penn: *Bad Boys* (1983)

- William Petersen: *To Live and Die in L.A.* (1985)
 - Oliver Reed: *Women in Love* (1970)
 - Arnold Schwarzenegger: *The Terminator* (1984)
 - Sylvester Stallone: *Party at Kitty and Studs* (1970) (a.k.a. *The Italian Stallion*)
 - Sting: *Brimstone and Treacle* (1982)
 - Jan-Michael Vincent: *Buster and Billie* (1974)
- (Excerpted from *The Gay Book of Lists*, by Leigh Rutledge, published this November by Alyson Publications, Boston, Mass.)

Save Yourself

It was one of those Planet Mary events and they wouldn't let me in! But last week's S&M Flea Market was strictly Women Only. So even though I brought friends who swear I'm a Society Lady, I can't tell you a thing about the intriguing event. And how unusual it must have been. All those itty-teeny restraints, micro-chains, and antennae stretchers. The high-pitched fleas yelping, "Yes, Mistress! Thank You, Mistress!"

I'm not making this up, you

know. There was an S&M Flea Market last week, and it was women only. Not even Mr. Marcus can report on it. Maybe Darlene was there with her camera. Oh, ladies—I'm scandalized and titillated. What's next? Will Drummer go co-ed?

★ ★ ★

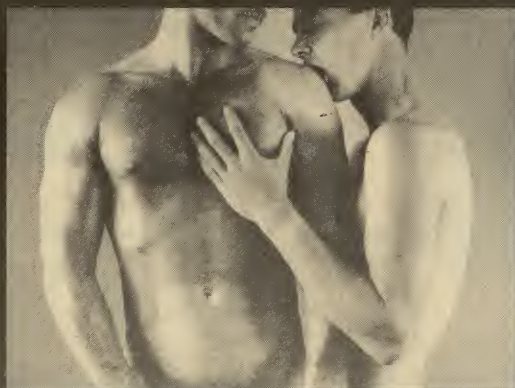
I have to admit that I first noticed ACT actor Peter Bradbury because he was pretty. He's a sturdy blond with riveting blue eyes and perturb-

ingly full lips. His role as a waiter in *The Doctor's Dilemma*, however, was so small that you couldn't notice much else beside his beauty, although his focused composure intrigued me with his potential as an actor. Really. So when I heard he was playing one of the leads in *Saved* in the ACT Playroom, I needed little prodding to attend. And while his striking handsomeness is even more remarkable in the tiny theater, what was more striking was to find that he is a young actor of



Cynthia Gates (l.), Peter Bradbury, and Stephen Weingartner in *Saved* (Photo: D. Maier)

"We'll be alone in the steamroom."



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mature power, and that *Saved* is a powerful play.

Edward Bond's *Saved* received its premiere in London in 1965 before a private subscription audience after it had been refused a license for public performance by the censor. The resultant notoriety assured attention for the play; even Sir Laurence Olivier rose to defend it. Its slice-of-life depiction of working-class amorality, climaxing in the murder of an infant, isn't sensational, however, but a reasoned disquisition on morality by a socialist and didactic playwright.

Pam (Cynthia Gates, in a deep-running performance of a surface girl) picks up Len (Stephen Weingartner) for quickie sex. He becomes a boarder in her household, caring for the baby which is the result of her affair with Fred (Bradbury). Pam is withdrawn while Fred is in jail, and Len becomes sexually involved with Pam's mother. Following the upheavals of Fred's return and the working out of the volatile relationships within the household, everyone settles down again to the accustomed stupor of working-class life.

The author offers little overt justification for his character's actions, and the play's strong impact is the result of our examining the barren lives, calculated cruelties, and the questionable futures of the characters. Playwright Bond says the play is "almost irresponsibly optimistic." This is painfully realistic optimism, then, especially as revealed in the play's finale, a strangely beautiful dumb-show of domestic torpor. It's difficult to see how these lives can proceed, yet Len—solicitous and caring—is there. There is life. There is the future. That's optimism, I guess.

The play's original impact may have been softened some with time, or perhaps by David Maier's direction, which takes a spacious amble into the play. Otherwise, it is incisive and well-shaped, never false. His actors reveal the layers of nuance below their frequently opaque lines. Stephen Weingartner's puzzled expression dulls his position as

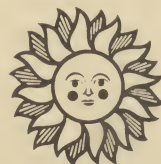
the play's "hero"; he is too passive. He seems to make his choices from dazed inaction, which may be contrary to the direction the playwright is pointing. It matches, however, the drifting lives of the other characters.

This drifting is the crux of the play—it is an amoral state, Bond shows, which leads to immorality. The only alternative—and the antidote—is morality, which we need to forge from the events of our lives on a daily basis. It is Len's search for the justifiable, correct action which stimulates our curious interest.

The harrowing action of the play and its intensity in the small Playroom, across the street from the Geary Theatre, is complemented by the uniform high quality of the acting. Mary Beth Smith and Don Piper are excellent in the fierce innuendo of their roles as Pam's parents, and the four hoodlum friends of Fred are stupid, butch, and believable. Peter Bradbury has much of Peter Donat about him—a recognizable and feisty stance, a brilliant focus, and the large gesture. When he explodes from his tight silence, it is with strength and excitement. He also looks swell in workman's clothes.

Finally *Saved* has a strange humor and spar construction which recalls Pinter and, surprisingly, provides a context for the work of Joe Orton. Here, in seriously realistic scenes, is the menace of covert sexuality and the banal joke of daily life which Orton turned into high comedy.

Saved is not your usual fare, and it's being well done. The production runs through Aug. 29, (566-4851).



Director Endorses Gay Marriages

Robert Benton, the writer-director who has won Oscars for *Kramer vs. Kramer* and *Places in the Heart*, has been married to a woman for 23 years and believes strongly in the institution: "I find it difficult to conceive of the elements of romance without the framework of marriage."

Asked if he favors legalizing marriage for gays so we can enjoy the elements of romance, he responds without hesitation, "Sure! I think marriage is a terrific state no matter who does it. God, that should be the biggest problem we have," he sighs as if he's just solved it.

If not for the Three B's — Benton and stars Jeff Bridges and Kim Basinger, *Nadine* would be the fourth B, a "B" movie. Benton himself refers to it half-jokingly as "a low-rent *Mr. and Mrs. North*."

The plot combines the one about the nice young couple who fight constantly but really love each other with the one Bridges just did in *The Morning After*, about a man helping a woman suspected of murder because of circumstantial evidence. Here they're played for laughs.

Basically it comes down to whether Bridges and Basinger make a pair you want to root for. If so you'll put up with their bickering, the *Road Runner* violence, and Jeff's constant fuck-ups because you know from the familiarity of the plot that it's going to turn out all right.

That's all there is to say about *Nadine* — it turned out all right. The participants may have been slumming to make a genre film, but they don't act like it. A nice little entertainment beats an overblown flop any day.

Visiting San Francisco to promote the movie, the Three B's found a lot more to say about it, mostly about how much fun it was to make. Bridges had just completed the title role in *Tucker* for Francis Coppola and seemed a bit disoriented. Basinger said they had worked together "A little bit like brother and sister," but he disagreed because he likes to rehearse and she doesn't. He did credit her with being fully in character when the camera rolled, "a natural-born actress."

The pleasantly outspoken Basinger said virtually the same about Bridges, perhaps choosing her words incautiously: "He doesn't go into the closet to get it up," meaning he slides naturally into a part for the camera and leaves it behind him at the end of the day.

Basinger normally does the same thing, but she couldn't shake her character in *9½ Weeks*, the masochist in an S/M relationship with Mickey Rourke. She related so much to the part it frightened her, the actress says, explaining, "There were a lot of [her] qualities in me. She did things any of us might do, given the chance. C'mon guys, we all harbor secret fantasies."

Of the many leading men in her brief but busy career, she cites Burt Reynolds as "probably the single nicest man I've worked with. He's got a lot of things inside him he hasn't had a chance to show yet, and I hope he gets a chance."

Basinger starred with Sam Shepard in *Fool for Love* because Jessica Lange was too tired and too pregnant to do it. Lange spent



Timothy Dalton is the newest Bond in *The Living Daylights*

a lot of time observing the shooting. "I never believe in going on another woman's set," Basinger comments. "Anybody who does that is a jerk."

Bridges has another take on Lange from working in her first film, *King Kong*. "Oh God, she was something!" he recalls. "When *King Kong* first came out people thought that's who she was. They didn't realize what a terrific job of acting she did. It's tough to be an airhead."

During the first wave of openly gay films in 1970, Benton and his frequent collaborator David Newman created what remains one of the most natural and positive gay couples on film, in *There Was a Crooked Man*. "There was a time," Benton remarks of the period, "when Hollywood was much more liberal than it is now. It's more sophisticated now, but less — ecumenical, if that's the word — not as accepting of different kinds of people." (*Galaxy*, Alexandria)

MORI-BOND

Timothy Dalton slips gracefully into James Bond's formal wear in *The Living Daylights* without doing anything definitive to make the character his own. Despite overwhelmingly good reviews, this is not one of the great 007 films. There are no memorable characters, including Bond himself, and every scene has a familiar ring, be it hair-raising stunt or romantic interlude.

The major villains are Joe Don Baker, an American paramilitary type who sells arms and drugs, a cross between Oliver North and Jonathan Winters; and Jeroen Krabbé (*The Fourth Man*), a phony defector who flirts with a number of women but understandably seems more interested in young blond punker Andreas

Wisniewski, who kills while listening to Pretenders records and looks hot in a bikini.

Much has been made of Bond's semi-monogamy as a response to AIDS, but I doubt whether *The Living Daylights* really ranks lower on the nookie meter than most previous films in the series. It backs off from the trite humor and self-parody the Bond blockbusters had fallen into, but comes up with nothing new to replace them. (Cinema 21, Empire, Century Plaza)

CHERCHEZ LE PETER

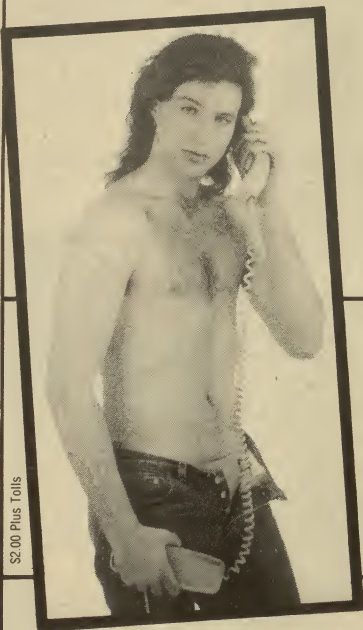
There's a nice rhythm to *The Lost Boys*, even apart from the light-heavy metal score. The pace is perfect, the technical work outstanding in all respects. I admired it, but I wouldn't recommend it for anyone far beyond their teens.

Divorced Dianne Wiest moves with her teenage sons from Phoenix to Santa Carla (actually Santa Cruz). Michael (Jason Patric, whose resemblance to Jim Morrison is stressed as though this were his screen test for a Doors biography) is initiated by Kiefer Sutherland into the local band of vampires, while young Sam (Corey Haim, who is adolescence nicely) is welcomed by the local vampire fighters. The rapport between the brothers is one of the best things this movie has going for it.

Michael is in love with Jami Gertz who, like him, won't be a

(Continued on page 39)

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Hollywood Tells All

by David-Alex Nahmod

No industry has been rocked by as many sleazy sex scandals as the movie industry, not even television ministries. Hollywood is also the only industry that has no qualms about looking at itself honestly. Most films that have been made about life within the film colony are tales of lives destroyed by vice and corruption. Many of these dark and gloomy melodramas are considered to be among the best films to have been produced in Hollywood. Excluding *Sunset Boulevard* and *Mommie Dearest*, which everyone has seen ad infinitum, here's a look at Hollywood looking at itself.

These films can be rented at Superstar Video (18th Street, near Castro) or Captain Video (on Market, off Castro) among other outlets.

For a truly informative look at Hollywood, watch the nine-part documentary *Hollywood*, seen Mondays at 10 p.m. (repeated Sundays at 2 p.m.) on KQED-TV.

THE WILD PARTY (1975) Directed by James Ivory

A strange, slightly kinky film from the normally genteel director of *A Room With A View*, James Ivory's *The Wild Party* was purported to have been based on the notorious Fatty Arbuckle scandal that rocked Hollywood in 1921. Anyone familiar with Hollywood history will notice that the events in this film don't even come close to what



Kim Stanley as Mrs. Farmer in *Frances*

really happened the night Arbuckle allegedly killed starlet Virginia Rappe. *The Wild Party* is instead a bitter, tongue-in-cheek condemnation of the glittering pretension that is Tinseltown.

The film takes place in one day, and shows the stormy relationship between has-been movie clown Jolly Grim (James Coco) and his "gal" Queenie (Raquel

Welch, in a surprisingly strong performance). Jolly's on the comeback trail, and the party he's giving is to promote his first role in five years. The film focuses on the party. First it's a typical Hollywood affair, with everyone hugging and kissing each other, but gradually it degenerates into a night of sex, sleaze, and bitterness. Like the Arbuckle affair, Jolly's night

ends in the accidental deaths of those close to him.

A downbeat story told with wit and style, and with tongue firmly in cheek, *The Wild Party* suffers somewhat from slow pacing, but it's a fascinating look at life behind the screen.

The Wild Party may be hard to find in the video store of your choice. It is distributed by Embassy Home Video, 1901 Avenue of the Stars, Los Angeles 90067.

THE LAST TYCOON (1976) Directed by Elia Kazan

No film has ever captured the reality of day-to-day life in a movie studio quite like *The Last Tycoon*. A slow, restrained film written by Harold Pinter from F. Scott Fitzgerald's last, unfinished novel, *Tycoon* is an interesting failure that could have been brilliant.

The film suffers most due to its star-studded cast. More than a dozen established Hollywood stars took supporting and bit roles in what is basically a low-budget mood film. In telling the story of boy wonder studio head Monroe Stahr (Robert DeNiro), Elia Kazan directed a slow, introspective picture, supposedly based on the life of MGM's Irving Thalberg. About half the film follows Stahr through the daily, unglamorous drudgery of running a successful film studio. He sits in his office, takes meetings with actors, directors, and writers, makes corporate decisions, and acts as a mediator. Virtually every person Stahr talks to seems to be an excuse for another big star to walk through his office door. Rather than study Stahr's character, the audience is most likely to squal "Look, it's Jack Nicholson/Tony Curtis/Robert Mitchum/Jeanne Moreau/Ray Milland/Theresa Russell!" It becomes distracting after awhile.

The rest of the film deals with Stahr's brief affair with a Lillian Gish-like mystery woman played by the ghostly Ingrid Boulting. The breakup of this affair leads to Stahr's sudden, overnight fall from grace, and the film ends before the story.

Perhaps if F. Scott Fitzgerald had lived to finish the novel on which the film was based, the filmmakers would have had a more cohesive ending. Obviously not the work of hacks, *The Last Tycoon* is exceptionally well filmed and acted. It just had too many factors working against it. Rather than the masterpiece its makers hoped for, they ended up with a *Dynasty* for intellectuals.

THE GODDESS (1958) Directed by John Cromwell FRANCES (1983) Directed by Graeme Clifford

Two riveting, shocking films about life behind the screen, both *The Goddess* and *Frances*, show

how destructive the Hollywood machine can be.

Kim Stanley, one of the most neglected actresses of all time, stars in both films. In the former, she plays a poor girl from a broken home who grows up to be a breathless blonde film star, a Monroe prototype. In the latter, she is the terrifying, psychotic mother of '30s star Frances Farmer. (Jessica Lange)

Stanley is a New York stage actress and drama teacher who came out of the famed Actor's Studio. She has made only four films during her career, and has gone on record as being the only performer in Hollywood history to have been oscar nominated for every single film appearance she has done. An intense woman with a powerful, almost off-putting screen presence, Kim Stanley could not get much work in Hollywood because, simply, she was too good. When she is onscreen, her presence is so strong that your eyes are drawn to her, almost to the exclusion of her co-stars. Many actors and directors were afraid to work with her.

In *The Goddess* she is repeating one of her Broadway roles. The film follows the play quite closely and focuses on Stanley in a series of long, starkly photographed black and white scenes. Slowly she transforms from awkward girl to screen goddess to hopeless neurotic in a performance that is moving and frightening. The story is told simply. In this film Hollywood glamour is talked about but not seen. What is shown is how Hollywood affected one woman's life.

Frances is another frightening Hollywood horror story. The story of Frances Farmer is perhaps the most disturbing story to come out of Tinseltown. Some have even questioned its validity. Farmer was a beautiful young woman who starred in a handful of films in the 1930s before being wrongly institutionalized for a drunk driving offense. For the next 15 years she was in and out of mental hospitals where she was drugged, raped, and possibly lobotomized. When she was at last set free, she was nearly a vegetable.

Behind all this was Frances' mother Lillian Farmer (Kim Stanley), a failed actress who lived vicariously through her daughter's fame. Mrs. Farmer, who herself should have been hospitalized, was enraged by her daughter's political activism and rejection of the Hollywood star system and arranged for her to be put away so she could "get well." An apathetic Hollywood turned away from and soon forgot Frances Farmer.

Both actresses are brilliant in the haunting *Frances*. One might wonder why a place that produces so much of our entertainment can be such a cruel and destructive place.

But our fascination with Hollywood continues.

Spirits In Common

Works by Marita Dingus and Juan Alonso in a two-person show exposing a thread of African ritualistic cultures will be at the Alonso/Sullivan Gallery, 1207 Harvard E., Seattle, Aug. 20 - Sept. 14.

Juan Alonso is a former San Francisco resident, a gay artist, and co-owner of the Alonso/Sullivan Gallery. The gallery recently achieved critical acclaim in

Seattle through the mounting of its 1st Annual "Eroticism/West Coast Expression" exhibition. The event was captured by local television news cameras. Twenty-four artists were included in the juried show, several of whom were residents of San Francisco, and one or two even attended the opening-night festivities. The erotic show continues through Aug. 17.

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Mr. Marcus

Zack Long Is Leather Daddy For 1987-88

Last Friday, July 31, an overflowing crowd at the SF-Eagle saw the naming of Zack Long as the new Leather Daddy of San Francisco. The beer bust and contest benefiting the AIDS Emergency Fund was the last night of Tom Rodgers' reign as the title holder.

Out of a field of seven contestants, Mr. Long, an activist in many areas of fundraising, was obliged to sell vote tickets, as were all the other contestants. The three-hour beer bust included an auction and entertainment by Joe Taro's cast from *It's Fascination* now facing the bright lights at Theatre Rhino until Aug. 9. Their talented swing through a few numbers from the musical love story was well received by the huge leather audience.

But the main attention was directed towards the contestants, who each had to auction off various donated items, including a pair of boots worn by the household cavalry of Queen Victoria. They were in mint condition for being some 137 years old.

Sharon McNight appeared in her nun costume from *Nunsense* currently at the Marines Memorial. Sharon auctioned off a few items of an esoteric nature, and with her impromptu repartee and adlibbing, she had the crowd in stitches. Tom Rodgers, MC'ing his own outrageous party, wielded the mike with some appropriate remarks as well.

In the end, Zack Long was the choice of the judges (Felix Jones of London, Leather Daddy's Boy James Buhler, Tom Rossi of the SF Eagle softball team). He also had the distinction of selling the most vote tickets. The crowd seemed extremely pleased by the finalist; Zack has a reputation already for his efforts in various fundraising activities and is a strong supporter of the AIDS Emergency Fund as well as other community causes.



Mr. Leather Daddy '87 Zack Long
(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

As usual, the SF-Eagle staff managed to overcome the press of the huge crowd and at the rate he's going, Mike Polansky may be named the fastest gun in the West, beer gun, that is. He gushed the beer into the pitchers of the Interchain Fraternity volunteers.

Alan Selby did it again; we have a promising new leather titleholder and the coffers of the AIDS Emergency Fund were somewhat swelled again because

of this benefit. In case anyone out there is interested the Leather Daddy's Boy competition will take place at the SF-Eagle Sunday, Sept. 6 (Labor Day Weekend). If you're thinking of running, check it out with any SF-Eagle bartender for an application form, or contact Alan Selby at Mister S Leathers.

Saturday, Aug. 1, the Council of Emperors had this huge flea market in the parking lot of

(Continued on next page)



The line-up of contestants in the Leather Daddy contest last weekend at the Eagle
(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

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Sharon McNight auctioned off many items last weekend at the Leather Daddy contest at the Eagle (Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)



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Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

Church Street Station; Budd Smith and Al Kohner celebrated their 25th year of wedded bliss at their home with a horde of good friends and well-wishers helping them celebrate. The duke and duchess candidates were running all over from trying to get out the vote. There must have been a hell of a turn-out as I voted around 1230 hours and was somewhere in the 250 range already! The coronation is this Saturday night, Aug. 8, at Bimbo's 365 (on Columbus) and sounds like it will be quite an affair!

Sunday, all the stops were pulled out for the Up Your Alley Productions street party on Dore Alley this year. Early on, the crowds kept coming (the same that goes on there at night, only without passion). Booths galore, tits and ass galore, entertainment galore, tits and ass, straight thrill seekers, tits and ass, leather, cocktails, pins, games, buttons, tits and ass. It was all there.

The entertainment was superb. Mark Miller wore out his torso gyrating in the sun; Impulse F, the all-woman rock band, wowed the crowd; Jo Carroll was sensational; it was terrific. Needless to say, Patrick Toner has got to have something good going with Mother Nature. Every one of the Up Your Alley Productions has been weather-perfect.

The Powerhouse, closest to the action, was actionesse divine. I

learned for all of you, from the new owner, that the club will remain the Powerhouse. The staff will remain, the leather policy will remain, and they have a hefty lease from Alexis Upstairs. Whoever started all the ugly rumors about closing the joint, making it a disco, making it a J/O club — it's all rumors, and how many times do I have to tell you not to listen (read: believe) those vicious rumors?

The bars South of Market enjoyed a hefty patronage all day. Thanks Up Your Alley volunteers for a job well done. It was good to see Herbella Hebron fresh out of the hospital (and looking quite svelte, my dears) and doing his gig with no complaints. Hey, it was a great weekend!

Tonight, Aug. 6, the final Buns Contest at the End-up takes place to name Mr. December '88 for the buns calendar. John Kass has worked his own little buns off all these past months getting this project together. All in all, the winners are quite lookers, and their buns (thanks to the judges) are sights indeed worthy of publication on a calendar. This is your last chance to get on the calendar, so don't miss this one! There will be an autograph night when the calendar is all published and ready for sale, so stay tuned!

If I didn't know any better, I could say the CMC has turned into a water sports club, but such is not the case! They are having two water-related events coming your way; This Sunday, it's a Beach Party at the SF-Eagle patio with the 1st annual Mr. Speedo Contest, so there should be lots of bathing beauties on hand with door prizes and food, beer and music. The flyer lists everything but the price! It begins at 1500 and ends at 1800 and I hope the sun shines! Their next water event is on Sunday, Aug. 16, with a picnic at Lake Temescal; eye-openers at 1000 hours (that's in the morning, dear!) and departing from the Mint. Call 626-3858 for details. Also call 626-3858 for more info on the leather group going to the March on Washington in October!

Friday, Aug. 7, the Citizens for Medical Justice and the March on Washington are having a beer bust at the Eagle from 2000-

2300. Donations on a sliding scale from \$5 to \$10. Terry Beswick and Carol Leigh will MC. My goombah, Pat Norman, will be there, and so will Danny Williams. That should be fun!

Set your VCR for 1000 hours, Channel 5, Wednesday, Aug. 12. Rita Rockett, Ruth Brinker, and a rep from Shanti will be on *People Are Talking*. AIDS awareness is matter of fact here in Mecca, but if you tape it and send it to friends in Podunk, it could help the provinces know how to deal with this crisis!

The Bartenders Bash at Troc will be on Saturday, Aug. 15, at Trocadero Transfer (D. Collier hates it when I only say the "Troc") from 2100 'til Dawn. There'll be surprise entertainment and non-stop dancing for this 18th edition. Come and see your fave bartender get crazy while not on duty.

The big bike run this month is the Constantines' "Our Town," Aug. 21-23. The run includes five meals, 72-hour continuous bar, bike, buddy and people events, guest show, campsite awards, and costume awards. If you get your bread to them by Aug. 8, it's only \$67; tarry until Aug. 15 and it'll cost you \$77 with an absolute deadline of Aug. 15. Submit your application to them at P.O. Box 4964, SF, CA 94101-4964, but hurry. Unless there is a typographical error when this goes to press, Kyle Bingham should be most happy with this news bit!

Hey, don't forget the Bingo Games on Thursday nights at Most Holy Redeemer Church. Attendance is falling and I don't understand why with all those cash prizes! All proceeds go to the Coming Home Hospice, so win some bucks while raising money for a worthy cause, right, Ray Hermann and Vinnie in '88? Does Deena Jones' name on the back of the Duke/Duchess tickets mean another empress candidate? I see!

Let's see what else would interest you? J/O Buddies Tea Jack Off is Sunday, Aug. 9 at 890 Folsom. Doors open from 3 until 5, party til 7, cost 'ya \$7. The 15 Association's Whipping Night party is Sat., Aug. 15, at their Capp Street location. Call 863-2197 for cost and the rules of the gaming.

(Continued on next page)

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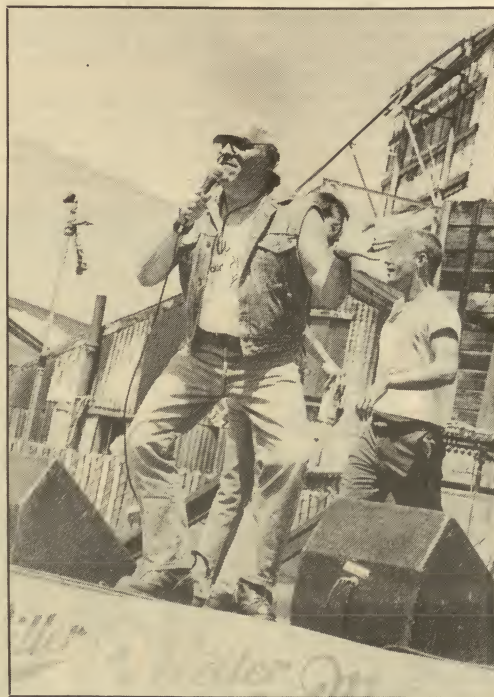
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Mr. Marcus did his imitation of a chicken at the Dore Alley street fair (Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)



Mr. Leather Daddy's Boy '86 James Buhler (l.), with Tom Rodgers, Leather Daddy '86 (Photo: S. Martin)

Mr. Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

Yes, Andy Black, I did move; yes, I am now getting your press releases at the correct address; yes, you are doing fine and giving Cal Eagles' Jeff a run for his money.

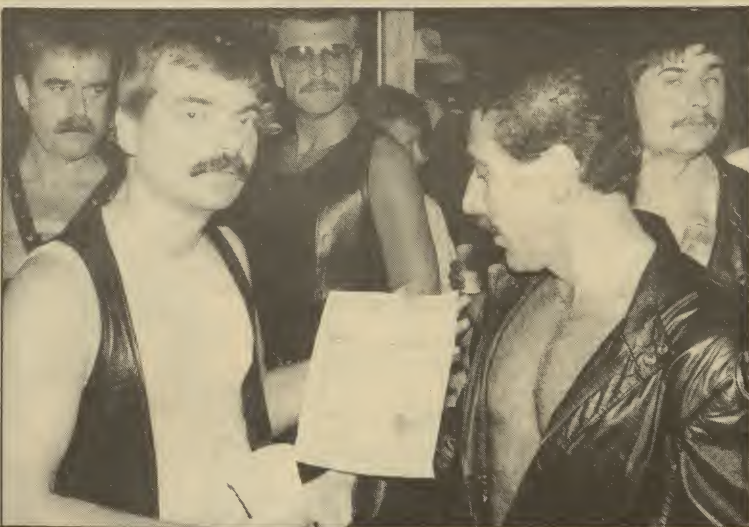
If you want to see yourself frolicking and having fun in Dore Alley (daytime fair, not the night parties), tune in Cable Channel 6, Thursday, Aug. 27, at 2100 hours for Electric City. It will be available for rent from Super Star Video on 18th near Castro too. It will be shown at Maud's and Peg's Place at a date TBA, and will on Oakland's Cable Channel 35 on the 1st Sunday in Sept.!

If that's too wild for you, check out Falcon Studio's latest release: *In Your Wildest Dreams*. It is

hot! With Chad "The King" Douglas, Justin Cade, and Steve Wright heading the cast, it's a thrusting good time all the way, including some interesting FFofA action, right into the '80s. If you look close, you'll see those new inflatable, pump-up dildoes sold by Mercury Mail Order and dubbed: "Pump-Up Pete." Have you got your MMO Catalog yet? If not, call 621-1188 and get one! Falcon videos are hot and available in your local video store; if they don't have it, demand it!

A DISH A DAY KEEPS THE MOUTHS AWAY

That night clerk at a South-of-Market bookstore doesn't know how many people saw him seduce



David Sarathain and Pete Pettine are organizing a contingent to the March on Washington in October. Call 626-3858 for details (Photo: S. Martin)

a rather famous leather titleholder the other night and promptly closed the doors to the public for the rest of the night. But my spies are everywhere, darling, Joe (no last names).

If you couldn't get into the Powerhouse last Saturday night without standing in line, it's because some a-hole phoned up the SF Fire Dept. to complain about over-crowding. So two out, one in — how '60-ishy tacky!

Yes, that was Colt Thomas, former Intl. Mr. Leather, in town on the arm of Russ Godwin at the Dore Alley fair. That's twice in as

many months now! Will Russ move to Detroit, or will Dr. Colt Thomas set up his practice here? Time will tell, 'e Pruzannadanna

Heard from Don, John, and Doug, formerly of Febe's lately? They seem to have become carpenters, according to reliable sources, and their digs in Biloxi are beginning to look like the San Jose Winchester House — only with much more class!

Frank Hatfield, formerly of Drummer, is writing a book to be entitled: *The Golden Days of Folsom*, published by The Source. If you have any anec-

dotes, truth, fact, fiction, dish, etc., photos or stories or anything interesting about Folsom Street, drop him a line at P.O. Box 1069, Forestville, CA 95436. I'm sure there are a lot of "Golden Girls" out there with a lot of juicy info.

Hey, time to wrap this up for another week. Hope you had fun at the Dore Alley fair, Leather Daddy contest, and all around the town. Keep up your solid and generous support for all the charities that need your help. Just live, love, and laugh — but do it in leather. Those were the dishes broken last week! ●



Patrick Toner (r.), the producer of the Dore Alley street fair, with Ms. Sacramento Leather '87 (Photo: R. Pruzan)



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It's Not Over 'Til The Fat Lady Sings

That's right! This Saturday night the results of the race for Grand Duke XIV and Grand Duchess XV will be announced at Bimbo's 365 Club on Columbus Avenue. The voting was held last Saturday at Operation Concern on Market Street and was the culmination of four weeks of hectic campaigning.

The campaign focused on the candidates for Grand Duchess: Flame, Ms. Piggi, and Gaby. Since all three candidates had South-of-Market and Tenderloin support, the proof of the pudding would be what support/votes they could gather outside of those areas.

As I see it, Gaby, the newest candidate, could have been the candidate who held the trump card. It would depend from which of the two other candidates' support (Flame's or Piggi's) she could pull enough votes from to swing the election. This is crucial because Flame and Piggi were seesawing as the leaders during the campaign.

If Gaby pulled votes from Flame's camp then that could open the door for Piggi, or vice versa. Then again, she could have pulled enough from each camp to give her the edge and possibly the crown. That would be an upset!

There must be some truth in the rumor that history is repeating itself during this current competition for a crown. God forbid I should spread dirt about any one of the candidates, but getting any dish about these folks can be like pulling teeth! The



Grand Duchess candidates Flame, Gaby, and Piggi, with Grand Duke candidates Bruce, Tom and Beau.

possibility exists here for true scandal and yet another shakeup in the way we conduct court affairs. One note of concern about one of the candidates is that if he rules his court the way he rules his business affairs — well, never-mind!!

However, we won't know the final results 'til the fat lady sings!

That will not happen until all the hoopla in celebration of the completion of the current reigning Grand Duke Mike d'Dyke and Grand Duchess Lola Lust is over.

Both of these people have had a busy and successful year. The San Francisco women's community can be extremely proud of its first elected court title holder in Mike d'Dyke. She has worked very well with her Grand Duchess and the two of them together have complimented each other.

The Grand Ducal Court has retained its notoriety as being entertaining, fun, and very hard working. My congratulations to Mike and Lola for jobs well done and to their court for the support given to these two during the

year.

Whoever wins the titles, it would be incumbent upon the unsuccessful candidates to continue working for the good of our community and not walk away disgruntled. It would be appropriate for one to retreat for a couple of weeks to lick your wounds, but then you should return with a firmer resolve to continue the good works you have gained a reputation for. Our community is always in need of dedicated and willing people who will work for the good of all. So don't disappoint your followers by being a sore loser. Maybe this competition was just another in a string of losses? Or maybe you were just going to use this as a stepping stone to something bigger and you really didn't care about the title anyway! Show them you can rise above it all and be a better person for it.

Again, congratulations to all of the candidates and their committees for being involved and interested in pursuing your dreams. Good luck this Saturday and enjoy the evening. I regret I will not be in attendance because I must travel to SoCal and will be working while the festivities are going on. My best wishes to all.

HAWAII CALLS

Monte Reddick and Roger Coca called to chat about how things are going in Hawaii. Would you believe they have been there for more than ten months and both of them couldn't be happier? Monte is a chef at the Breakers Hotel's restaurant, serving up tasty morsels for breakfast and lunch. Tommy Turner is the bar manager at the hotel and is planning on moving closer to the Waikiki area. Currently, all three live in the Salt Lake area of Honolulu, which is close to Aloha Stadium across from Pearl Harbor. They have a lovely three-bedroom home, and Roger and Monte have planted a small garden of herbs. Roger is really happy there and has really gotten into the island way of living, and the pace at which they live is so much more relaxing. They were off to Mokuleia, on the northwest side of the island, for a beach party with Empress II and IV Jovann of Hawaii and her friends.

I remember my days on the beaches of Mokuleia when we would go Pipii gathering. Pipii is a small sea urchin and clings to the rocks by the shore. You have to pick hundreds of them, boil

them in salt water, and use a pin to dig out the urchin to eat. We also used to go torch fishing at night. We would make old-style torches using hollowed out bamboo, burlap, and kerosene. Our spears would either be made out of bamboo or metal. We wouldn't fish until the tide was out and walked along the reefs looking for Opelupele, Onon, or whatever our spears could hit. After fishing we would sit around the campfire we had built on the shore and listen to Hawaiian legends about the area we were in. Those were da kind dazes!

Anyway, Monte, Roger, and Tommy send their Aloha to all, and when you are over there, call and say Hi. They would love to see you!

UP AND COMING

Don't forget the Constantines 20th Anniversary Run "Our Town" which will be held over the Aug. 21-23 weekend. You should try to take advantage of the first deadline, Aug. 8, as the fee is only \$67 for five meals, 24-hour bar, bike, buddy, and people events, guests show, club show, campsite, and costume judging. If you miss that date, the next and final deadline is Aug. 15 when the fee will be \$77. The run is limited to 150 guests and will be held at Pioneer Trail in the Stanislaus Forest. Applications are available from any Constantine or at the Eagle. Jungle and I will journey in "Kaleihualeiimaokalani" to the run site. All we plan on doing are our nails on this trip! Believe me! Jungle has promised no bike events and I, well, I'm certainly not going to make any promises I'm not going to keep!

PUSHY, AREN'T WE?

My spies on the Barbary Coasters/Warlocks Run of last week came home with "kudos" for both clubs! Despite a minor food shortage Friday night, a coffee shortage the next day, and some weirdness over the bike awards, all went well.

The Run show was the best in many years. A special congratulations to Darwin Silcock for fabulous costumes and a superb set!

Of course, all the members of both clubs deserve lots of credit. Vinnie Russell (as Road Captain of the B.C.s) certainly had his hands full as "Road Princess II" of this run. It's not easy getting everyone moving and motivated when you need to. A "Good Job" star goes to Vinnie!

Rowbottom, you were fabulous as Cleopatra! All voices were hushed waiting to see if you'd make an "asp" of yourself. Our fears were groundless. This is the last time I miss a show and let Michael Jones take my place! I hear he was flawless in heels. Speaking of heels, (Craig!) maybe we can take a moment or two to practice walking and kicking in our highheels! Girlen! Jungle and Dana worked themselves into a stupor last weekend (which might explain that vacant look Jungle's been sporting all week!). "Good Job" stars to you both as well!

After asking all the people involved, I would have to say this experiment of two clubs co-hosting a run was a success. The trucks are unloaded and both groups are still talking! As a matter of fact, I'm told there are some budding friendships coming out of this episode. More on that later!

I heard that C.S. kept her
(Continued on next page)

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Sweet Lips

You Know What That Means

Mr. Kelly of the Lion out on Sacramento Street has done it again. You should go out just to have a drink with his new dreamboat of a bartender, Bryan. Well worth the trip for such good service and such a pleasant smile. Keep it up, Bryan.

From now on please do not call him Cousin John but just John, and you may call Duffy Cousin Duffy now. Thanks for the fun evening at the Deluxe, Duffy.

Can you believe Yma Sumac is opening this week at Theatre on the Square? Remember when Maurice and Lamont used to do their imitation of her at the Old Dalt Club? Incidentally, the Gangway's 19th anniversary raised almost \$3,000 for Coming Home Hospice. Great job, guys.

The great Attilio can be found at the Yacht Club on Polk Street and at the Sausalito Inn over there. You look great buddy, and hi to Jimmy Stapleton.

Yes, Dennis Gartner of Portland will be in San Francisco around the 20th for a weekend to see some plays, especially *Cabaret*, which is returning to the Golden Gate Theatre.

You and the Night and the Music will be held Monday the 24th at the Venetian Room of the Fairmont Hotel with host Mr. Michael Greer and a host of stars such as Pamela Brooks, Jae Ross, Samantha Samuels, and lots more. It's a benefit for the San Francisco Band Foundation and tickets are available at all Headlines, so order early because it'll be a biggie. We'll all be seeing you that night, Michael, from Gingers Too.

This Saturday there will be an all-day party celebrating yet another anniversary of the popular New Bell Saloon with the staff going all out to make this a real biggie. John, Roger, and group promise some inviting tidbits, and of course Lincoln is supervising the entire affair, so please don't miss it. Also, the one and only Totie is back at her hold shifts and looking and feeling great, right Seaman Russ!

Thank you Bob Huffman from Portland for spending a great week with me and for your great entertaining at Ginger's Too's Steinway. Everyone loved your playing, especially Franklin.

Danny Webber, formerly of the Vagabond for a thousand years, is now on the planks at the wonderful Wooden Horse Saloon at Polk and Turk streets, so do drop by and have a cocktail with this very congenial gentleman.

Saturday the 15th the Kokpit staff and management invite you to join them in celebrating Kenny Allison's birthday, but I promised Duffy I wouldn't say which one. Don't miss it as he is celebrating the same year as the Golden Gate Bridge and Snow White.

Yes, Mark Friese is back on the planks at the Mint out there on Market Street and looking great doing his usual good job. We'll be out to see you shortly, honey.

How come Duffy only works 24 hours a week at the DeLuxe? Tuesday through Fridays 8 'til 2 — what a racket you have, dear.

Don't forget that Totie's Bar on Larkin Street is still going strong what with Dick on the planks and of course Champagne Jack holding forth on you know what.

Robert, formerly of the *P.S., has a nice Mexican restaurant on 6th Street just off of Mission call-



Maria Elena, aka Bari (l.), with Sweet Lips, who came out of retirement for a recent function at Ginger's Too. Not bad, eh?

ed Mamacita's and is still serving the same fabulous food he made famous for years.

Al (Chimpunk) Ognibene, a longtime bartender in the community, is looking to get back behind the bar and can be reached at 775-1618. If you need help, give him a call.

Yes, Jay Noonan is back at the Grubstake on Pine Street next door to Kimo's after a visit back east with Mr. Michael Greet who was doing Shakespeare. Nice to have you back home Jay.

Tall, handsome Bruce is doing a stint or two at the wonderful Watering Hole south of Market and you'll most likely find my saves there quite often. Hi Scott.

Memo to Greta Grass of the Kokpit: Doug Twist of the Five Star Saloon in Reno will be here for a visit towards the end of August and wants you to be sure to keep a brunch date open.

Lola's family, Mother Terry and John's younger brother Purlie were in town for a visit from Seattle and had a great time with me and want to ask Lola how is the Las Vegas change girl?

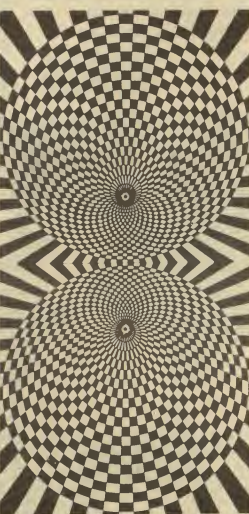
Watch for the details on what Franklin and Talven will be doing for Halloween at Ginger's Too. Because it is a Saturday night it promises to be spectacular, so make your plans early.

The new Miss California Continental Beauty Pageant of 1987 is Saturday the 15th of August at the Green Room of the War Memorial and coming from Chicago for the entertainment part will be some of the top entertainers from the world-famous Baton show lounge. A part of the proceeds will be donated to the G.S.L. 1987 World Series 11. For tickets and info, call 928-5988. Empress I of L.A., La Rey, will be one of the M.C.s.

Don't forget the annual Tavern Guild picnic is coming up in September, so check with your favorite Tavern Guild bar for more information.

Don't forget the Grand Duke and Grand Duchess Coronation this Saturday night. Good luck guys. Congrats to Doug Lamb on his promotion at the bank and for now being able to use the second car — hi Durwood.

Watch out, Chico. Bob Huffman is on his way there for a two weeks vacation and you know what that means.



Remy

(Continued from previous page)

mouth shut most of the weekend! Truth can be stranger than fiction.

I wasn't there but I can well imagine how it must've been out there in the wilderness. The early-morning mist on the ground, the restive twittering of the first bird calls, and the sound of Pushy Phyllis screaming for more Vodka! Darling, I was told that at least three bottles of everything were left out before the last club member went to bed Saturday and Sunday morning. Slow down girl!

Poor Paulette was the first to earn a Purple Heart last weekend. She was practicing her "Swan dive" at the swimming hole or somesuch and managed to dislocate her shoulder!

I could go on with this for pages and pages, however, let's just say that everyone had their shining moment. Aloha boys and girls! Till next time, may the dish be with you!

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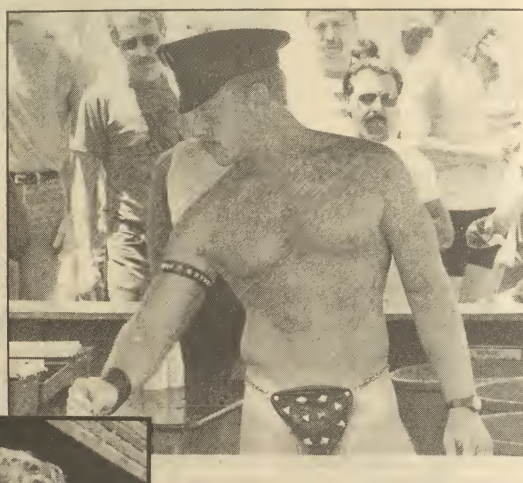
Up Your Alley!



(Photo: James Dusch)



(Photo: Scott Martin)



(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)



(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)



(Photo: R. Puzan)



(Photo: R. Puzan)

Dore
Alley
'87

Warren

(Continued from page 31)

complete vampire until she makes her first kill — but they can be saved by dispatching the secret head of the local vampires. Sammy and the vampbusters try to help, as what began with echoes of *Rebel Without a Cause* turns out to be more like *Peter Pan*. The mystery is, who is the Peter who's trying to find a mother for his lost boys?

The Lost Boys is played at a young teenage level, but there are some terrifically funny lines and Joel Schumacher has directed the hell into it, giving it a lot more bite than *Jaws the Revenge*. (Alexandria, Stonestown, Century Plaza)

FRESH 'STACHE

There's a lot of gay in the repartee between Richard Dreyfuss and Emilio Estevez in *Stakeout*. They're police watching Madeleine Stowe in case her old boyfriend, escaped cop killer Aidan Quinn, visits her. Dreyfuss falls in love with Stowe, which is contrary to regulations but would seem to have some practical value.

The lovers give good performances, relegating Estevez — who looks cuter in a mustache — to supporting status. Watch for Lossen Chambers as a supermarket cashier. She all but steals the movie with one line.

Director John Badham skillfully juggles action, comedy, suspense, and romance to make *Stakeout* an effective summer-time thriller. (Regency I, Century Plaza)

CLASS OF '36

Lester Maddox once said the way to improve Georgia's prisons was to get a better class of prisoners. Brazil got a good class in 1936, when dictator Vargas arrested just about everyone who had ever had a liberal thought.



Vampires of *The Lost Boys*

Memories of Prison (Memorias do Cárcere) is told from the perspective of Graciliana Ramos (Carlos Vereza), a writer who was unjustly imprisoned for a year. The jail he's sent to first is almost like a college dormitory, but then he's transferred to an island penitentiary which is more like what we're used to seeing in prison movies. Ramos stumbles on two men having sex, one of whom says, "Asshole, haven't you ever seen anyone getting fucked before?"

That's about the only action of any kind in *Memories of Prison*, which is slow and low-keyed. It's well acted, but not well enough for Vereza to bring you into Ramos' internal conflict. Without that he just gets arrested in the beginning and released a long two hours later. (Roxie)

DESIGNER CINEMA

Pacific Film Archive will offer a rare chance to see how Hollywood dealt with Noel Coward's outrageously bisexual comedy *Design for Living* in 1933, the year before the Production Code went into effect. Gary Cooper, Fredric March, and Miriam Hopkins form a ménage à trois. When Hopkins leaves her men to marry Edward Everett Horton, it's obvious she doesn't get the same thing from him she got from them, but the movie plays down the point that Cooper and March can get along fine without a woman!

The screening, Aug. 15 at 7:30 p.m., is part of an 80-film celebration of the 75th anniversary of Paramount Pictures. Call PFA at 642-1412 for more information. ●

Bennett

(Continued from page 26)
rest he needed."

Interviewed by the New York Times in November, 1986, Bennett claimed open-heart surgery was imminent, possibly to cover the hospitalization he surely knew would come. Referring to his alleged heart problems, but perhaps thinking of his actual illness, Bennett spoke what were perhaps his only honest words to the public about his health. "I've never been more scared in my life," he said.

Nonetheless, he told the interviewer, all he needed was six months to recuperate. He added, "I think I'll be able to make my comeback at 44 without a problem." When he died July 2, having lived just four months beyond his 44th birthday, it was clear there would be no comeback. On the afternoon of Bennett's death, his attorney announced that Bennett had died from AIDS-induced lymphoma.

That Bennett felt compelled not simply to be silent about being gay and, later, about having AIDS, but felt the need to manufacture lies about himself reveals a side of his personality — like the side of Duell — that did not love or respect Bennett very much. When Jowitt wrote of Duell's "dark side," she hinted not solely at an aspect of Duell's personality but at a characteristic of the artistic world both Duell and Bennett occupied. Both men discovered that their talent was eagerly consumed by that world, but each felt, one surmises, somehow isolated within it. What they shared was a perception that who they were, at base, was something not acceptable — not to them, not to others. Duell, in his private pain, reached out to none of his friends and ultimately faced his personal demons with suicide. Bennett, discovering he was terminally ill, secluded himself at his home in Tucson, lied about

his condition, and feared, even in his last months, not only for his life but for his "image."

Michael Bennett's death from AIDS in no way tarnishes his shining contribution to musical theater or detracts from the pleasure and even catharsis he gave to so many. Bennett, however, was clearly convinced it would be otherwise. Tragically, his silence, dissembling, and bald lies robbed him and us of the support we might have given each other. In an era when our national government is calling for mandatory AIDS testing and when the spectre of quarantine looms, openness by public figures with AIDS is one of our most effective weapons. More important than that, we need our heroes.

Had Bennett lived, he might eventually have outrun his virtual identification with *Chorus Line*, but it would not have been soon. Perhaps it was inevitable, then, that *Chorus Line* would become an allegory of Bennett's life. Frank Rich, eulogizing Bennett in the New York Times, recalled that point in *Chorus Line* when a dancer injures himself and is forced to leave the audition. To think of Bennett, he wrote, is "to think of the empty space that is left in the musical's chorus line late in the show every night."

But another moment in *Chorus Line* comes to mind in remembering Bennett. Each night, for tens of thousands of performances throughout the world, two gay men in that line came out on stage and talked about their lives with immense honesty and dignity. What should sadden all of us is that Bennett never found the support in his community, or the strength within himself, to claim that dignity for his own. ●



Six Memorable Gay Love Offerings

• Christopher and His Kind and Down There On a Visit

Writer Christopher Isherwood dedicated several of his books — including *Christopher and His Kind* and *Down There on a Visit* to his lover of over 30 years, artist Don Bachardy. Bachardy, in turn, often provided affectionate drawings of Isherwood for the books' covers.

• Some Operas

English composer Benjamin Britten wrote all of his major tenor roles, and most of his solo vocal works, specifically for his lover, tenor Peter Pears. The operas include *Peter Grimes*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Billy Budd*, and *Death in Venice* — the greatest English operas since Purcell.

• Independence For Arabia

British soldier and adventurer T.E. Lawrence dedicated his masterpiece, *The Seven Pillars of Wisdom*, "To S.A." — Salim Ahmed, a handsome Arab boy he had loved. Lawrence also claimed that the motivation during his entire campaign to drive the Turks from Arabia had been "personal." "I liked a particular Arab," he said, referring to Ahmed, "and I thought that freedom for the race would be an acceptable present."

• The Pathétique Symphony

Tchaikovsky's Sixth Symphony, the *Pathétique*, was dedicated to his nephew, Vladimir Davidov, with whom the composer was deeply in love. Tchaikovsky wrote of the symphony, "I love it as I have never loved a single one of

my offspring."

• Royal Patronage

After falling in love with composer Richard Wagner, King Ludwig II, the 18-year-old monarch of Bavaria, paid off

Wagner's enormous debts, provided him with housing and an income, and arranged for extravagant productions of Wagner's operas in Munich — all in an attempt to keep the composer near

him.

• An Inscription

When archaeologists excavated the ruins of Pompeii and Herculaneum, they discovered a profusion of ancient graffiti, much of it erotic, scribbled on various walls throughout the cities. One such inscription records the relationship enjoyed

by the two men, and reads simply: "Auctus fucked Quintus here." We know nothing about either Auctus or Quintus, except for the pleasure they shared 2,000 years ago.

(Excerpted from *The Gay Book of Lists*, by Leigh Rutledge, published this November by Alyson Publications, Boston, Mass.)

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Event '87!

Event '87! is the project of 25 members of the S.F. Eagles Softball Team, a member of the Gay Softball League. The GSL, which received its non-profit status in 1985, celebrates its 10th consecutive season and is the largest non-city sponsored league in San Francisco. Each year the GSL participates in community outreach, raising thousands of dollars for health-related charities. The S.F. Eagles Softball Team is proud to continue this fine tradition.

The AIDS Emergency Fund, established in 1982, provides direct grants for persons with AIDS. These grants help them with rent, medical bills, utilities and other expenses until SSI and other government monies become available. Grants are paid to providers of PWAs with a monthly income of less than \$700. The AIDS Emergency Fund is non-profit, tax exempt, and is administered totally by dedicated volunteers. An average of 90% of monies received goes directly to PWAs. The AIDS Emergency Fund has received considerable community praise for its outreach program, which includes the entire San Francisco Bay Area.

In producing Event '87!, we will give all community groups of a non-profit and non-political status the opportunity to raise funds through booths and concessions at our street fair. Event '87! will be held on Saturday, Aug. 22, from noon to 6 p.m. The event will be located on 12th Street between Folsom and Harrison and at the S.F. Eagle.

We are confident that through the promotion of health, athletics, brotherhood and sisterhood, all of San Francisco will benefit from Event '87! •



Adriatic Adventure

Adriatic Adventure with the Fraternal Order of Gays (FOG), will be a 20-day tour of Southern Italy and the Dalmatian Coast of Yugoslavia Sept. 17-Oct. 6. This exciting cultural and historical tour begins with wondrous Rome, where we spend five nights. Professional local guides will show us the splendor of this magnificent city. An exciting train ride takes us across Italy to Pescara. Here we board a ferry for our magical

overnight voyage across the Adriatic.

In Yugoslavia our sightseeing begins in the lovely seaport of Split. We then head into the mountains to visit historic Srebrjevo, and a visit to Mostar will show us Turkish Mosques and architecture. Returning to the coast we will become well acquainted with enchanting Dubrovnik, founded in the 7th Century and known as the "Pearl of the Adriatic." We will travel through picturesque valleys and visit the Bay of Kotor, Sveti Stefan, and Budva, dating back to 4th-century B.C.

We fly back to Rome and travel by our private deluxe motorcoach to Naples, where our sightseeing will include the beautiful island of Capri and the fabulous ruins of Pompei. Heading South we visit Cosenza in Calabria and Enna high up in the center of Sicily. Our last two nights are spent in fascinating, multi-cultural Palermo.

Starting at \$2,445, the tour price includes air, ship, train, and motorcoach transportation, first class or superior tourist hotels, sightseeing, tour guide, breakfasts, transfers, and portage. For reservations and a detailed itinerary contact: FOG, 304 Gold Mine Dr., San Francisco, CA 94131, 641-0999. •

BOOKS

Literature As Therapy

Letters I Never Wrote, Conversations I Never Had
by Charles Ben Bissell
Collier Books, \$4.95

by Robert Burke

One would like to give this very short (58 pages), well-intentioned book the benefit of the doubt. But the fact of the matter is that Bissell has not written a book at all; he has written a longish magazine article which desperately needs an editor.

The basic premise of *Letters I Never Wrote, Conversations I Never Had* is sound enough: much of the anger, loss, pain, and grief one experiences around the deaths of family and friends can frequently be alleviated by writing the deceased a sort of "letter" in which those feelings and emotions are expressed. Or, alternatively, having a highly structured "conversation" with them in which those feelings as well as the more positive feelings and memories are "discussed." It isn't really a very new or original concept; it is, in fact, a rather widely accepted therapy-

tic technique for encouraging closure.

But originality isn't the point here. The failure of *Letters I Never Wrote, Conversations I Never Had* lies primarily in the fact that Bissell's own collection of "letters" is so inaccessible to his audience. They are, when all is said and done, letters to his family and to his friends, people about whom (beyond the briefest biographical sketch) one knows nothing and therefore has little reason to care about.

If, indeed, there is any message to be had from Bissell's work it is an implicit one: say the things that need to be said to family and friends while they are still around to respond to it and one will generally find that both great satisfaction and true savings (in terms of stationary and breath) have been realized in the process. •

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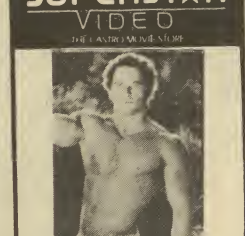


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reasonable rental 553-8784 Tom E34

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Seeks men same age or older. Let me help you further your career and future financially. I'm chubby, cute & great sense of humor. Looking for quiet times, affection and companionship. Relationship possible. No B.S. Sincere only. POBox 410505, SF CA 94141 E32

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White man 28 yrs, 6', blond
hair, blue eyes. Interested
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8" + no \$ Jerry 863-7631
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to your balls! Gdtkng B/M
services fit guys under
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Two lovers need oral expert
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Touch & Thought & Oil!!!
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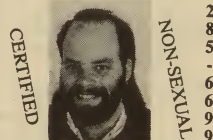
David, yng masseur. I aim to
please, Swedish massage, relax.
474-3194 \$25 in/\$45 out
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\$35 550-8616 24 Hours
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Complete mass. by hndsmg guy.
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ln/out 647-0944 \$40/\$50 cash
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6', 190, beautifully nude
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Firm, Erotic Swedish Massage
Massage Lotion & Table, Hard to Beat It
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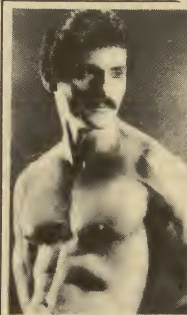
Complete erotic & sensual
Mike handsome masculine
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1 1/2 hrs. \$45.00 \$55.00 Out
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E38

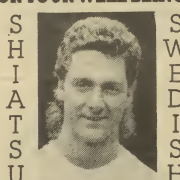
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Kevin 285-6542 super time.
E36

Hot Oil Massage by body builder
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E33

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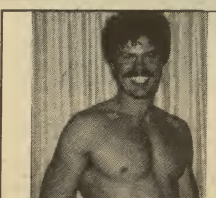
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Non-Sexual • \$40/90 min.
A Caring Touch That Is
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Complete Massage
Chuck 661-1832 \$30 in/out
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certified. Ray 334-0517
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Sensual-Safe 776-8779 Rod
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Masseur 776-6847 24 hrs. E33

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full body massage
\$30 your place or mine
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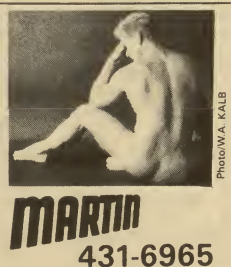
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8" thick exc mass & more
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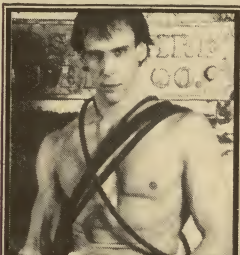
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Seeks generous men
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Young Student
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BIG BUTT tall hairy blue-eyed
Daddy. Chad 861-7014 E37

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Handsome Hairy Tall Big Balls
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6'2", 185#, hung top, 24 hrs, safe
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Full Equip GM RM
Light to Heavy
FF WS SM Leather
Bondage
Steve 584-3983 E32

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Very Aggressive & Discreet
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Vito: Healthy Hairy Ital.
Makes U Feel Like A King!
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I lay back. Extra hung — extra
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#626-3239 E32

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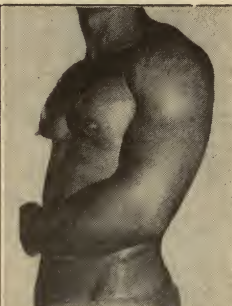
6'4", 195#, hairy X-Army sgt.
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Italian stud, extra handsome,
well built B/B. Always on top.
6ft, 195lbs., long, thick, visuals,
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JASON
175 lbs., 5'8½", 46"C, 29"W
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6'2", 240, strong but handsome
Warm, sensitive.
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8½" Boyish Good Looks!

Clean shaven handsome guy
kicks back. 26 yrs, 160#,
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receive threatening or
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This young and experienced
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Fantasy • Tough Sessions
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Pay homage to a straight physique
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Long, thick dick—J/O exhib. plus.
M/F/Cpls ok. Hot. 922-3752 E32

Pure Beef
31, uncut, blk, 10½"
50in, 60out Matt 221-7219 safe
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gdlkg., BB, massage. Call Jim
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Thick and Big
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bodybuilder, handsome and
intelligent, experienced top,
but patient with beginners.
Explore S&M in a safe place —
get into bondage and sensu-
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change. (I'm HIV negative
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5'9", 165#, 28" W, 44" C, 16" A,
Hung 9" + and thick. Into
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Two Natural Men
for serious give/take
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CUM "SWINE" WITH US
24 HRS 664-8353
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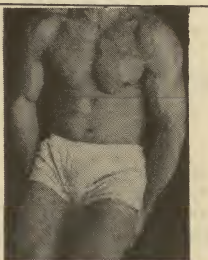
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AMERICAN EAGLES
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active duty military men
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studs: White, 5'10" - 6', 155 -
175#, muscled, smooth, safe,
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Very Handsome, Sexy, 24, 6'
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\$100
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VISA/MC ACCEPTED
(Additional \$25)

Laidback Hung-Thick!
Jonny \$60 #626-3239 E32

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30, 5'10", 190 lbs., BR/BR,
8" + cut. Likes to lean back
while you work his hose.
DAN 861-7931
NO GREEK

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San Francisco's Hottest Top

6ft., 185lbs., no-nonsense leather
man. 34 y.o., hot rugged good-
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W/S, S/M, F/F, verbal abuse,
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Novices Welcome. Safe
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35 yr old/w hot willing butt
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Brad 626-6327 Safe 24 Hrs. E32

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22, good looking
hot body
very well endowed

► SCOTT ◀
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Versatile • Hung
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SEXY LEAN MACHINE!

Washboard ABS 150 lb. 5'8"
bearded/masculine/playful
thick 8" w/swingin' nuts
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Belts * * Unusual 928-0449 E34



24 Hours

Hot 'n' Sexy

David 550-8616 \$60

BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS & FITNESS

SOFTBALL

Playoffs Set For Rossi This Sunday

by Tom Vindeed

The final eight teams are set to battle for the rights to the Gay Softball League Championship.

Four of the best women's teams in California will vie for the right to represent the GSL at the women's World Series next month.

Last Sunday saw the Rawhide emerge on top of the preliminary playoff round by nipping the Stallion 10-9 and clubbing the Cafe Men in the title game 19-9.

By virtue of its win, the Rawhide avoided meeting the powerful and number-one ranked End-Up. That dubious honor now goes to the Cafe. Good luck.

Pilsner's Penguins will now take on the Rawhide, and the defending-champion Pendulum Pirates will host the Metro. The final fray finds the Village taking on the Kokpit. These are some of the best match-ups in years within the GSL.

The first ball will be thrown out at 9 a.m. at Rossie Field at Arguello and Anza Sunday, Aug. 9.

My choice for the final two is the End-Up and the Pendulum. We shall see.

Aug. 22 is going to be a busy day for the league as three functions are taking place.

First, there will be a salute to GSL Commissioner Rick Brattin which will be held at the California Club, lower level. Highlights of this event, other than an open bar, will be a roast MC'd by "Harold Krystal" Pohl. Krystal has lined up a great array of "roasters" and many are clamoring to tell their stories about Rita. This will be a great night, and it's only \$20. Food is being provided by Mark Warlick Caterers.

Bob Docca is holding the Jerry Walker Memorial Classic also



Camaraderie among the Stallion teammates represents what the GSL is all about
(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

that weekend at Kimball Field. If you haven't gotten back to Bob, now is the time. His telephone number is 775-4036.

The Eagle softball team is having a street fair beginning at noon on 12th Street in front of the Eagle. The event will benefit

the AIDS Emergency Fund, the World Series, and the team.

See you at Rossi Field. ●

TRACK & FIELD

SF Sprinters Sizzle at Fresno Meet

by Rick Thoman

Facing hot weather, a hot track, and its hottest competition of the season, the San Francisco Track & Field Club rose to the occasion, producing a number of personal and season-best marks at the Western Regional Championships in Fresno July 25.

San Francisco's star sprinter Earl Bryant described the action as "fast and furious. It was definitely one of the team's best performances this season."

The meet was a prelude to the National Championships in Eugene, Oregon later this month, and the type of top-quality competition the San Francisco Track & Field Club will face there.

Striving to measure up to "the best in the West," S.F.'s quintet of runners scored two personal-best marks in addition to three season-best performances and picked up four gold, three silver, and two bronze medals.

San Francisco scored an upset in the 4x100 relay as the relay squad swept past perennial favorites like the Southern California Striders and the West Valley Track Club, and crossed the finish line with a season-best time of 46.3 seconds.

The relay was a new configuration for the S.F. Club, led off by Frank Demby, who steam-rolled through the first curve, handing off to Earl Bryant. The baton exchange between Demby and Bryant was a key factor in giving the team a competitive edge in the race. Bryant sizzled through his leg of the relay, then handed off to Jim Pasquali, who was running in the third position using



The crucial hand-off in the 4x100 relay
(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

the inside lane to full advantage to put the competition behind him. He gave the baton and a lead to Rick Thoman, who was anchoring the relay for the first time. Thoman held off the pack in pursuit of first place and crossed the finish line for a season-best time and a gold-medal victory.

Pasquali commented after the race, "It was fabulous! A true team effort. Everyone ran a great leg and our hand-offs went off without a hitch. It was a great way to start off the meet!"

Other season-best performances were turned in by Nancy Frost in the 800 meters and by Pasquali in the 200 meters. Frost faced her first true challenge of the season, racing against Tina

Stough, who edged Frost at last year's National Championships in New York. Frost again finished second to Stough, but ran a gutsy 2:34.3 clocking in a demanding 800-meter event. Frost also nabbed second in the 400 meters and, running her first-ever 200 meter race, finished a respectable 4th place.

In the men's 200 meter race, Pasquali missed out on a medal but finished with a season-best time of 25.6 in the 40-44 age division. Earl Bryant ran a personal-best time of 24.2 on his way to a second-place finish in the 35-39 age group. Bryant burst out of the blocks for a strong start and came on strong down the final straight-away, moving past the

(Continued on page 45)



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POOL

A Question of Parity



David Heinen, of San Diego, WCC XV individual champion
(Photo: L. Ward)

by Lauren Ward

As the 32 teams in the S.F. Pool Association's 19th season settle in at the Aug. 11 starting gate, a description of the course ahead seems timely.

The dilemma facing the scheduling committee is multifaceted. The schedule must balance home and away matches and be as fair as possible to everyone.

One of the problems with fairness is that the teams are drawn randomly into the divisions without regard for team skill levels. Thus a playoff quality team drawn into an especially strong division could fall short of post-season play as a result of the draw. Weaker teams in strong divisions might never know the

thrill of winning a team match. A strong team in a relatively weak division can pull so far ahead as to be unapproachable for the division title.

A possible solution is to seed the divisions based on expected performance but that would rely on fortune telling power currently beyond our grasp. The only clearly fair way we know to assure match-ups of evenly skilled teams is the interdivisional match.

In this format each team in the league plays its statistical equal in another division. Our fall team competition will have seven weeks of matches between divisional opponents with six weeks

(Continued on next page)

BOWLING

High Scores Galore!

by Richard McPherson

I've never seen so many high games shot in the Tavern Guild leagues during a two-week period. So let's get right into reporting the scores, shall we?

High overall series at Park Bowl in the Tavern Guild leagues over the past two weeks went to David Deluxe, 146 ave., who shot two gigantic games of 245 and 238 for a 612 series. Other 600s: Richard McPherson 254/607 and Tom Sipple, 190 ave., 213, 213, for a 605.

High individual game of 255 was shot by Jack Dunbar, a 170 average bowler. Wednesday the Pilsner Opus 1 team had two great scores the same game by teammates Steve Trott, 149 ave., and Tom Staats, 144 ave., who shot 223 and 209 respectively. Lots of high scoring over the past two weeks. High games of 220+:

Adrian Stenson	242
Hugh Smith	236
Roger Spencer	235
Byron Mathews	235
Kevin Ahart	234
Tom Neidert (149 ave.)	232
J. C. Halstead	231
Adrian Stenson	229
Arne Prince	227
John Perry	227
Eddie Carmick	224
Bob Mack	223
Kevin Ahart	223
Randy Peterson	222
Ken Sexton	222
Michael Wheeler	222
Ron Squires	220

Thom Walters, 127 ave., shot a

111 triplicate set. Tough to do (and receives an ABC award), but when you're under your average you're not exactly thrilled. Bill Gall and Bob Bates both had near triplicates with 179, 179, 181 and 140, 141, 141 respectively. Better luck next time, guys!

Robyn Trost, 163 ave., had high game for all the women with a 223. Max Cane, 145 ave., followed his first 500 series a couple of weeks ago with another on 7/23 with a 508. Max puts in a lot of practice and it's definitely showing.

Japantown Bowl had one 600 series over the past two weeks in the Community leagues, which was shot by Ken Gray, 177 ave.,

249/603. Jim Barnes, 162 ave., shot 218, 201 for a 598, just missing the magic 600 mark. Games over 220:

Rob Oates (165 ave.)	235
Randy Worden (152 ave.)	234
Russ Beck 7/13	232
Russ Beck 7/20	232
Blaine Witlock (147 ave.)	230
JR Mangilaya	225
Ed Egenias	224

Kendra Holloway, 112 ave., shot the most-over-average game with an even 200. Other efforts significantly over average:

Peter Cataldo (140 ave.)	210
Grady Clark (155 ave.)	209
Steve Schepis (150 ave.)	206
Jack Claypool (145 ave.)	206

(Continued on next page)

JAPANTOWN BOWL COMMUNITY LEAGUES BOWLING

Team Standings

SUNDAY RENO LEAGUE (Week 6 of 16 - as of 7/19/87)

1. Fishes N	22	2
2. M D Squared	15	9
3. Love Potion No. 9	13	11
4. Andy's Angels Plus	13	11
5. Mixed Company	12	12
6. We Know!	11	13
7. Carmas Guys Two	11	13
8. Natalie Deadwoods	10	14
9. Strange Interlude	10	14
10. Mary's Boys	10	14
11. Split Ends	9	15
12. Cowboys and Indians	8	16

MONDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE (Week 8 of 16 - as of 7/20/87)

1. Pendulum 9	23	9
2. The P.I.P.s	22	10
3. Balls to Spare	21	11
4. Wayne's Boys	21	11
5. Tropical Fruit	18	14
6. Rawhide	17	15
7. Lambda Capital	13½	18½
8. SPCA's Doggie Bowl	11½	20½
9. Grumblers	11	21
10. Missing Persons	4	28

TUESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE (Week 9 of 16 - as of 7/21/87)

1. Graffe	27	9
2. Still Hoping	26	10
3. Summer Boy's	23	13
4. Kimo's Kows	21	15
5. Lois Lanes	21	15
6. D'Jets	19	17

7. Twin Peaks	19	17
8. Bobby Pins	19	17
9. Moby Dick Wailers	19	17
10. Angora Debs	18	18
11. Split Sisters	17	19
12. C.S. Low Hangers	16	20
13. Thge Dinah Soars	14½	21½
14. Stiff Competition	13½	22½
15. Madamettes	12	24
16. Team 16	0	36

WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE (Week 6 of 16 - as of 7/15/87)

1. Play With It, Ltd.	18	6
2. A F F Maulers	17	7
3. Team 9	17	7
4. Stray Katz	16	8
5. Ball Maneuvers	16	8
6. E Z Pick Up	13	11
7. Chatter Boxes	13	11
8. Worn Women	12½	11½
9. Team 2	11	13
10. Parakeet Lounge	8½	15½
11. Cumming Attractions	8	16
12. Sting	6	18

THURSDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE (Week 6 of 16 - as of 7/16/87)

1. Old Rick's	18	6
2. Galleon	16	8
3. Hot 'N' Hunky	13	11
4. Yacht Club	13	11
5. Oddballs	10½	13½
6. Stallion	10½	13½
7. Team 4	6	10
8. Team 8	0	16

TENNIS

Community Rentals Sinks Galleon

by Les Balmain

In the seventh and final round of the regular season of team tennis in the Gay Tennis Federation, Community Rentals blasted the Galleon out of the water with a tremendous score of 66-45! Having taken over first place since Round No. 4 back in June, Community Rentals increased its lead over the second place Galleon team by 36 games and finished the regular season undefeated with a won-loss record of 7-0. Another first in G.T.F. history! The Galleon ended the season with five wins and two losses.

Zephyr Realty (with five wins and two losses) took a solid hold on third place by downing Leticia's 68-45 and ended the season just six games behind the Galleon. Lupann's (with four wins and three losses) maintained fourth place and the last playoff spot by defeating Roto Rooter in a close match 57-55. Nella/Schmidt Insurance downed

the White Swallow 63-51 to finish in fifth place. In a make-up game previously rained out, the White Swallow barely edged Roto Rooter 58-53, played Aug. 8.

Round 7 team standings as of Aug. 2 are:

1. Community Rentals	455	316
2. The Galleon	409	356
3. Zephyr Realty	416	369
4. Lupann's	400	379
5. Nella/Schmidt	384	382
6. White Swallow	376	392
7. Roto Rooter	353	422
8. Leticia's	280	457

The playoffs are scheduled for next Sunday, Aug. 9, at Golden Gate Park. At 9 a.m. Community Rentals will face Lupann's and the Galleon will go against Zephyr Realty. And in the afternoon, around 1 p.m., the winners will play for the championship, and the losers will play for third and fourth place. Trophies are presented to all playoff teams and players.

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Tavern Guild Winter Schedule

Tavern Guild Trios League: Winter season begins Sept. 28. A pre-season meeting will be held on the second floor of Park Bowl Sept. 21 at 6:30 p.m. where there will be a vote for officers and bylaws, and acceptance of new teams and bowlers. Bowling will commence at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 28 with three-person teams (fourth substitute bowler optional). The price will be \$8.50.

Tavern Guild Monday League: Winter season begins Sept. 28 with a pre-season meeting on the second floor of Park Bowl at 7:30 p.m. where there will be a vote for officers and bylaws and acceptance of new teams and bowlers. Bowling will commence at 8:30 p.m. will five-person teams (sixth substitute bowler optional). The price will be \$8.50.

Tavern Guild Wednesday League: Winter season begins Sept. 30 with a pre-season meeting on the second floor of Park Bowl at 7:30 p.m. where there will be a vote for officers and bylaws and acceptance of new teams and

bowlers. Bowling will commence at 8:30 p.m. with five-person teams (sixth substitute bowler optional). The price will be \$8.50.

Tavern Guild Thursday League: Winter season begins Oct. 1 will a pre-season meeting on the second floor of Park Bowl at 8 p.m. where there will be a vote for officers and bylaws and acceptance of new teams and

bowlers. Bowling will commence at 9 p.m. with four-person teams (fifth substitute bowler optional). The price will be \$8.50.

Anyone wishing to join a team, form a team, or register an existing team into one of the bowling leagues should contact Mal Garcia at 752-2366 before the league's pre-season meeting to confirm space availability.

Track

(Continued from page 43)

competition and leaning at the tape for second place. In the men's 30-34 division, Thoman edged teammate Demby by two-tenths of a second, finishing with a time of 24.9 to Demby's 25.1 seconds.

Later in the afternoon, as temperatures soared above 90 degrees on the track, Demby exploded like a ball of fire in the men's 100-meter race, blazing to a third-place finish with a personal-best time of 12.1 seconds. Bryant was third in the 35-39 age group with a clocking of 11.9 seconds.

At the NorCal Invitational in Berkeley the previous week, Bryant gathered bronze medals in the 100 and 200 meters, while teammate Pasquali dashed to a season-best time of 11.8 seconds in his age division of the 100 meters. Also scoring for the S.F. Track Club were Frost and Thoman in the 300 meters (first and second respectively) and Alita Rosenfeld in the women's field events.

Three meets remain in the 1987 Track & Field season for the San Francisco Track & Field Club. For more information regarding the club and its workout schedule, call 558-8282.

Pool

(Continued from previous page)

of interdivisional matches interspersed. Each team will host its interdivisional opponent once and visit once. This should provide for tight Divisional Championship races and for top individuals who've been truly

tested.

This season the Board of Directors served as the Scheduling Committee, and after five years of personal schedule input I feel we've got the best possible formula at last. Here's looking forward to our best season ever!

Dial JOE-POOL for SFPA information.

Bowling

(Continued from previous page)

Walt Christian (149 ave.) 200

Results of the last No-Tap Tourney in my next column. I wanted to give you advance notice of the next one because you're in for something a little different: No Tap Scotch Doubles. Scotch Doubles means partners alternate every ball! (i.e. if you leave an eight count on your first ball your partner has to pick up the spare). Clever idea isn't it? This is scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 22, again at Castle Lanes.

The Scratch is almost upon us! Congratulations to the Pilsner

Penguins Softball team, second place in the Gay Softball League. At least half of the team members are also league bowlers: Jerry Pepper, Ken Sexton, Bobby Colton, Alan Winkle, Angelo Maggio, Pat Conlon, Frank Romeo, Byron Mathews, Mike Beckman, Jim Schneck, and George Londis. Good luck to the Penguins in the forthcoming GSL playoffs beginning Aug. 8.

The outcome of "The Challenge" event between bowlers and softballers in my next column. Rumor has it that it raised thousands of dollars.

Are we smiling yet? Any of you out there who didn't know this has been National Smile Week still have a couple of days to get out and do it!

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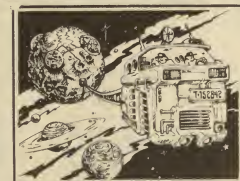
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